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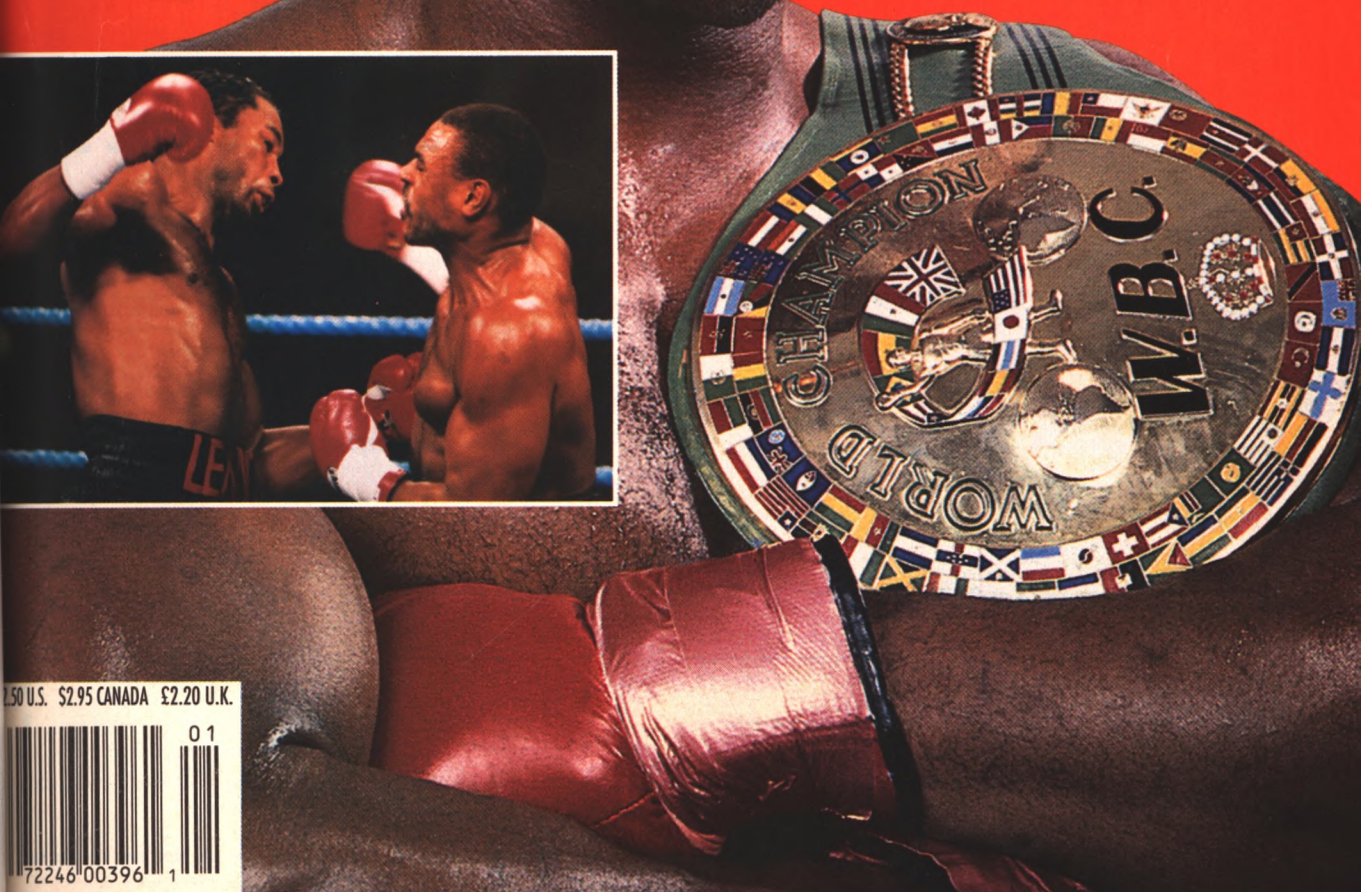

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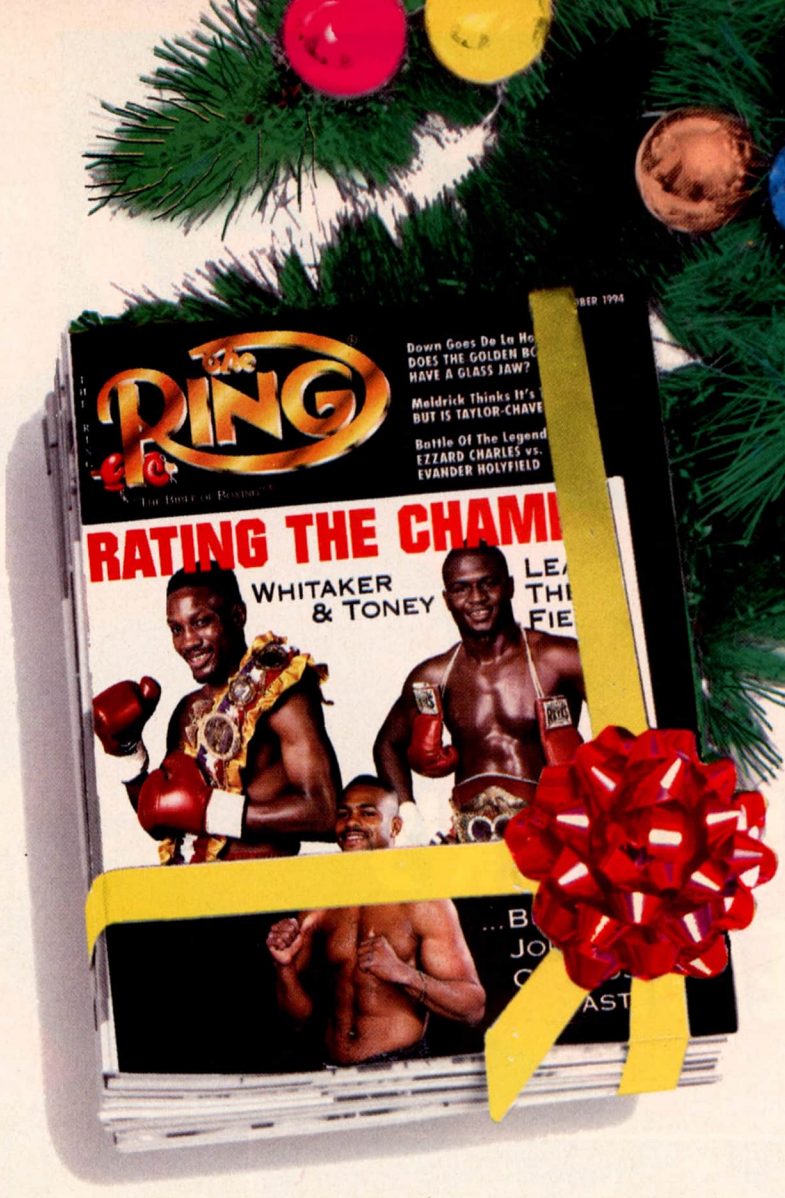

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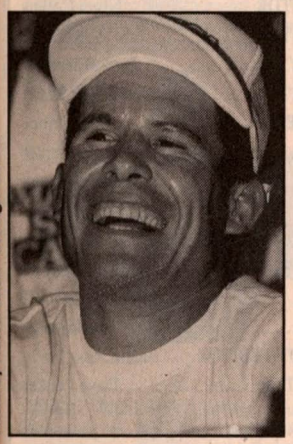

Photo by Robert Mitan, The Fightfinder

Cover: Oliver McCall by Jason Ross Lavin McCall-Lewis by Marc Y. Morris

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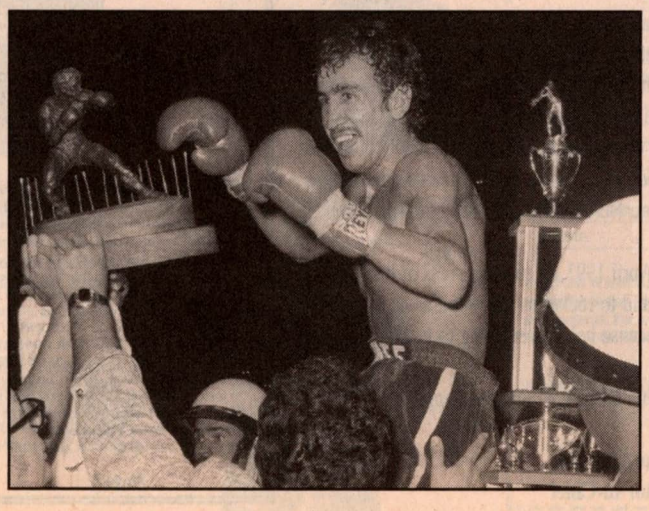

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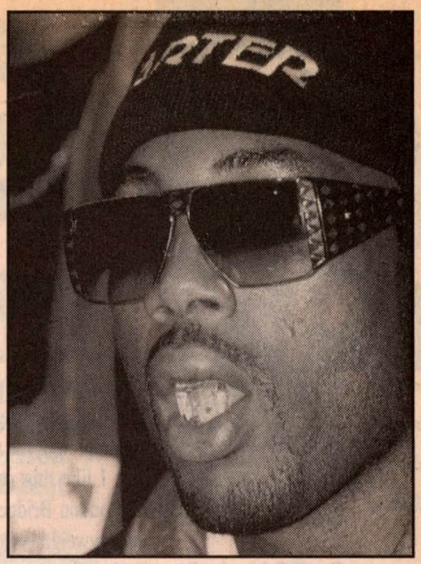

Photo by Marc Y. Morris

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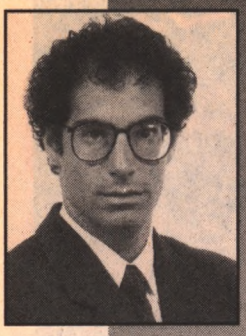

Ringside

Don King says "only in America," which, I think, is another way of saying, "anything can happen." Anything, including Oliver McCall, sparring partner extraordinaire, becoming heavyweight champion of the world. Or at least one of them.

I like this guy McCall. Before he annihilated Lennox Lewis ("London Bridge is falling down ... "), he was little more than a heavyweight who made my top 10 only because I refused to rank Bruce Seldon or Frans Botha. But three days after McCall's coronation, King introduced him to the New York press at The Rainbow Room, which, given the occasion, was a fitting choice of restaurants.

Still on a high, McCall was vocal, animated, and entertaining. "Will he have the championship belt with him at the press conference?" I had asked King publicist Mike Marley the night before. "Will he have it?" responded Marley. "He hasn't let go of it since he won it."

At one point, McCall's eyes teared as he talked of visiting church, and then a children's hospital, the day after the fight. Later in the day, he complained to three reporters about his mother-in-law. *On the record!* (Fortunately, his wife was on the other side of the room.) Then, after most of the feed-me-to-read-me press had eaten and run, "The Atomic Bull" posed for THE RING's camera. With that green belt, of course.

It was just before Assistant Photo Editor Jason Ross Lavin began snapping the shudder that a thought crossed McCall's mind. Wasn't it THE RING, or at least one of "those boxing magazines," that had published a story matching the top 10 heavyweights of 1994 vs. the top 10 of 1984? And hadn't one of the results been Pinklon Thomas KO 2 Oliver McCall? "It was like I had no *heart*," moaned McCall.

I immediately lapsed into my Ralph Kramden impersonation. ("Ahamata hamata ... ") The story McCall was referring to had run in the March 1994 edition of THE RING's sister publication *Boxing 94*. I hadn't written the feature, but that didn't seem to soothe McCall's bruised ego. He began stomping around the ballroom and building the kind of rage he had used so effectively against Lewis. A fighter's mood directly affects his posing, and his posing directly affects the quality of the photos, so I had to figure a way to bring back Oliver McCall, nice guy. And quick. But before I could think of anything, he did it for me. The pose set went without a hitch.

"Oliver's always been fun and exuberant," said a member of Showtime's boxing staff and a veteran McCall-watcher. "With him, it's pretty much what-you-see-is-what-you-get."

Later that night, King threw a cocktail party at the St. Moritz hotel. I wasn't there, but a photographer told me that at 11 p.m., after McCall had accommodated the press for about 12 consecutive hours, he was asked to pose in front of an American flag. The newly crowned champion had downed a few brews, and had he politely refused, he surely would have been excused. But he got up and smiled for the camera. Here's to hoping the title, for however long he keeps it, doesn't change him.

Before McCall fought Francesco Damiani in April 1993, he told the press of his lifelong goals: to become world heavyweight champion, and to rocket to the moon as an astronaut. He better apply to NASA, the writers decided, because he's never going to be heavyweight champion.

Yeah, right. One goal down, one to go. And remember, anything can happen.

Steve Farhood
Editor-in-Chief

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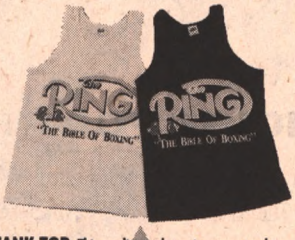

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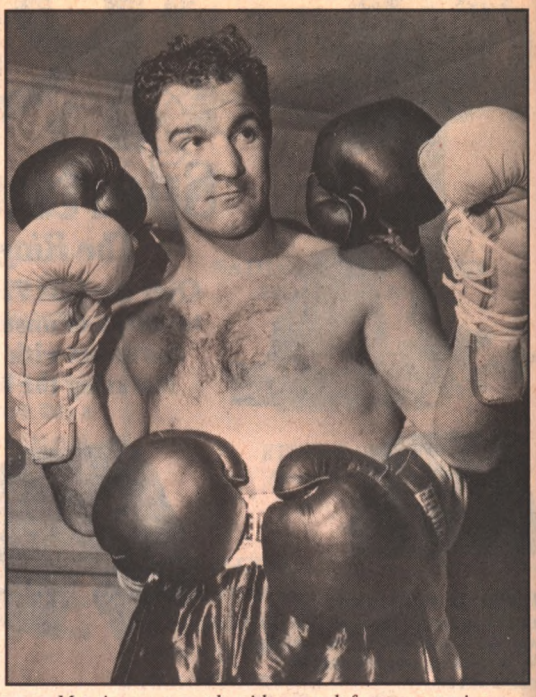
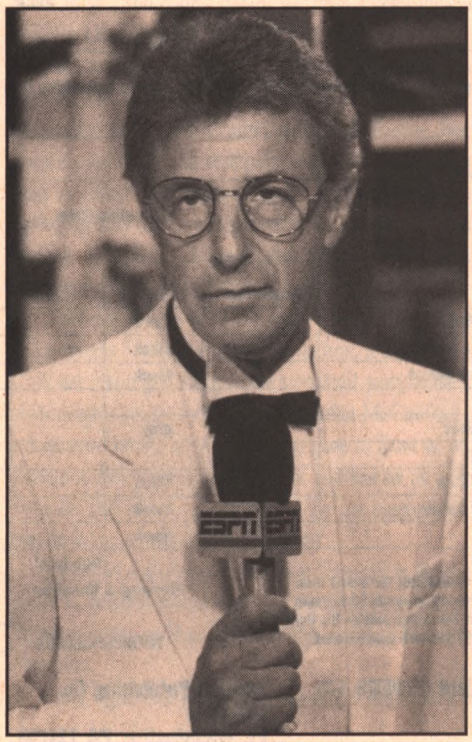
THE PIECES OF THE ROCK



Marciano was ready with a punch for any occasion

You already have the best boxing magazine published in the U.S. and U.K., but you surpassed your high standards in the November 1994 issue with a story featuring the complete fight-by-fight record of the great Rocky Marciano ("Remembering Rocky Marciano: A Fight-By-Fight Recap Of A Perfect Career"). Please, please, may we have this sort of article each month? For instance, how about the fight-by-fight pro records of Sugar Ray Robinson, Henry Armstrong, and the other greats, many of whom had 30 or 40 fights before even being considered contenders for a title? Such reviews serve to put things in perspective, especially when today's fighters can become "world champions" after a dozen contests. Witness Michael Bentt's recent rise to fame and instant oblivion.

GORDON CARROLL
Faversham, England



Tompkins is no longer behind the ESPN microphone

TALKING HEADS

This fight fan is not sorry blow-by-blow announcer Barry Tompkins will no longer be doing boxing for ESPN. Tompkins must have thought himself a standup comedian, and Al Bernstein his biggest fan. Joke-joke, laugh-laugh, so much so that they misjudged many fights. They were second only to the USA Network's Sean O'Grady, who talks endlessly, thus failing to observe the fight itself.

GERALD SELIS
Clifton, NJ

MEDICINE FOR THE GAME

The first installment of Robert Cassidy's series on boxing injuries ("Injuries In Boxing: Are The Risks Justifiable?"; November 1994) was not without interest and accuracy. However, it is necessary for boxing aficionados to understand that organized medicine is not necessarily playing the role of assassin. Certainly, the AMA and other groups have petitioned to make the sport illegal. On the other hand, a significant number of physicians have lent their expertise to both amateur and professional fighting in efforts to modify the potential for serious risk.

There has been very little action on the part of organized medicine's major groups to do anything but ask for certain specific controls to limit the potential for risk. These certainly include appropriate matchmaking, appropriate time between fights, sufficient training of ringside physicians and referees regarding head injury, and, particularly if there has

been an injury, adequate evaluation by physicians before and after fights.

Indeed, at the 1994 meeting of the American Association of Neurological Surgeons, the winning poster presentation addressed boxing injuries and made a very poignant point. The poster compared the logic of banning boxing with that of the responsibility of neurosurgeons to protect participants. It was in favor of the latter.

A number of years ago, I debated Dr. George Lundberg, the editor of the AMA Journal, on television. Obviously, he tried to convince the audience of the righteousness of banning boxing—and I tried to dissuade the audience from considering any such action as anything but illicit.

It would be worthwhile for you and your readers to know that private and organized medicine is cognizant of the philosophical, economic, and legal intricacies involved in professional boxing. Boxing should not look upon the medical community with fear, but as a potential aid toward upgrading each and every aspect of the sport.

MICHAEL H. SUKOFF, M.D.
Santa Ana, CA

REDIRECTING THE SPOTLIGHT

On the same day Oliver McCall dethroned Lummox Lewis in London, Kevin Kelley was brilliant in defending the WBC featherweight title against Jose Vida Ramos in Atlantic City. I thought Kelley, who is an emerging superstar, was an HBO fighter. But while the overhyped heavyweights fought on HBO, Kelley fought on regional cable-TV. Almost nobody saw the fight, and in the next day's papers it didn't get a single line of coverage.

Sometimes I think it's not the managers and promoters who are killing boxing. Sometimes I think it's the press. Kelley has earned coverage and attention. Instead, he's ignored. Whoever makes the decisions on what fights and fighters to cover is doing so with a blindfold on.

MARTY SOLOWITZ
Howard Beach, NY

MOORER IS *NOT* LESS

I want to know why Michael Moorer is getting ripped apart by the media while Riddick Bowe is still being hyped as the savior of the heavyweights. Okay, so Moorer was a bit tentative against Evander Holyfield, but his jab was terrific and his defense tight and secure for most of the fight. So what if he's been knocked over a few times. The point is that he's always gotten up to win. With the great Teddy Atlas in his corner, Moorer could turn out to be a surprisingly good champion.

COLIN McDOUGAL
Edinburgh, Scotland

IS CANIZALES OVERRATED?

Every month I study your pound-for-pound top 10. One name keeps popping up, yet the fighter seems undeserving. Orlando Canizales has been a champion for some time now, but he's never secured that one big fight.

A suggestion for Canizales: Move up in weight. The bantamweight division is overrun with uninteresting fighters from Japan, South Korea, and Thailand. Your only opportunity at that weight, a unification with Junior Jones, slipped away when the New Yorker recently lost his title.

Although junior featherweights Kennedy McKinney and Tracy Patterson recently lost their titles, there is still one big fight left at 122 pounds. Wilfredo Vasquez is a hard-punching and formidable veteran, and it just so happens he is the reigning WBA champion. This would be an entertaining fight, and a win would prove Canizales belongs in the top five of the pound-for-pound ratings. How about it?

DAN JACKSON
Brookings, OR

Photo by Jason Ross Lavin

Kelley was victorious, but not on HBO

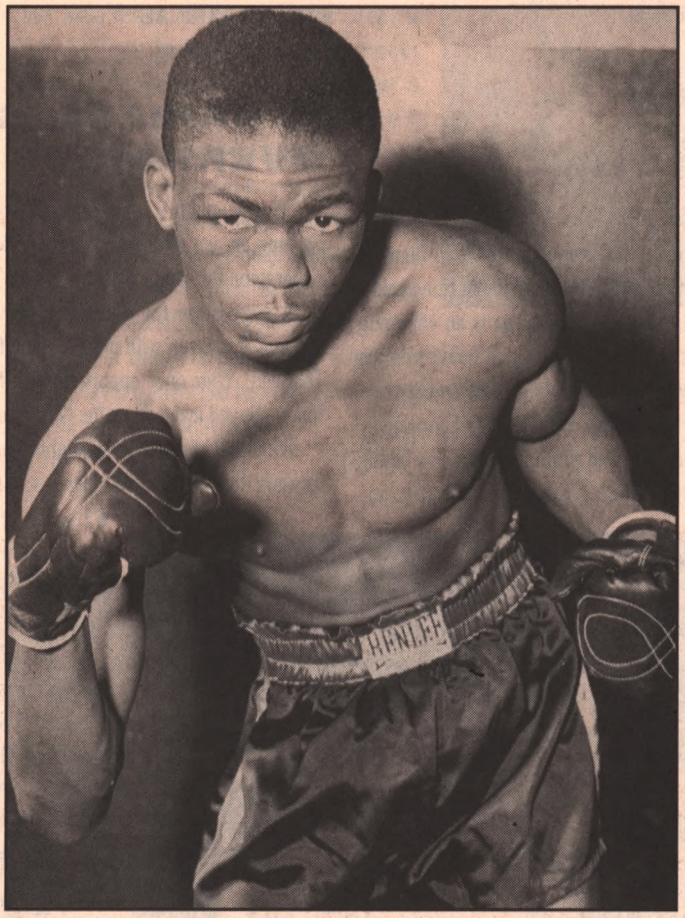
BUNGU, THAT'S WHO

On August 20, one of the most exciting fights of 1994 took place in Johannesburg, where Vuyani Bungu dethroned American hero Kennedy McKinney. A vicious body attack and superior work rate and punching power lasting every second of the 36 minutes of action saw the birth of a new force to be reckoned with in the 122-pound division. Indeed, the best 122-pounders of this era are to be found in East London, South Africa. Don't look any further: Bungu and his stablemate, former champion Welcome Ncita, are the real deals.

ANDILE BOVUNGANA
Port Elizabeth, South Africa ■

Round One

IKE WILLIAMS, 1923-1994



Most contemporary fans believe Roberto Duran was the greatest lightweight of all-time. Old-timers say it was Benny Leonard. But a lot of folks who followed boxing during the 1940s and early-'50s cast their vote for Ike Williams.

On September 5, Williams, 71, was discovered dead in the bathtub of his Los Angeles apartment, a victim of cardiovascular disease. His death made headlines in Trenton, New Jersey (Williams' base during his fighting days), but was relegated to a few lines in most newspapers. However, for boxing historians and the fans who saw him fight, Williams will always be remembered as a magnificent fighting machine.

Williams turned pro in March 1940 and won NBA recognition as lightweight champion with a second-round knockout of Juan Zurita in April '45. In August 1947, he unified the title by knocking out arch-rival Bob Montgomery. Other outstanding fighters he defeated were Sammy Angott, Enrique Bolanos, Tippy Larkin, Kid Gavilan, Beau Jack, Eddie Giosa, Joe Miceli, and Johnny Bratton. He lost the title in May 1951, when Jimmy Carter stopped him in the 14th round.

Williams, 123-25-5 (60), was managed throughout much of his career by mobster Blinky Palermo, and in 1960, five years after his retirement, he testified before a Senate subcommittee about organized crime's role in boxing. (During his fighting days, Williams had also attempted to start a boxers' union.) He was THE RING's Fighter of the Year in 1948, elected to THE RING Hall of Fame in '78, and the International Boxing Hall of Fame in '90.

"He was a heck of a good fighter, maybe the greatest lightweight ever; I'd rate him right up there with Tony Canzoneri," said Montgomery upon learning of his old foe's death. "People ask me how he would do against some of the modern fighters. That's easy. Ike would have licked Julio Cesar Chavez, no problem. I think he would have licked Roberto Duran, too."

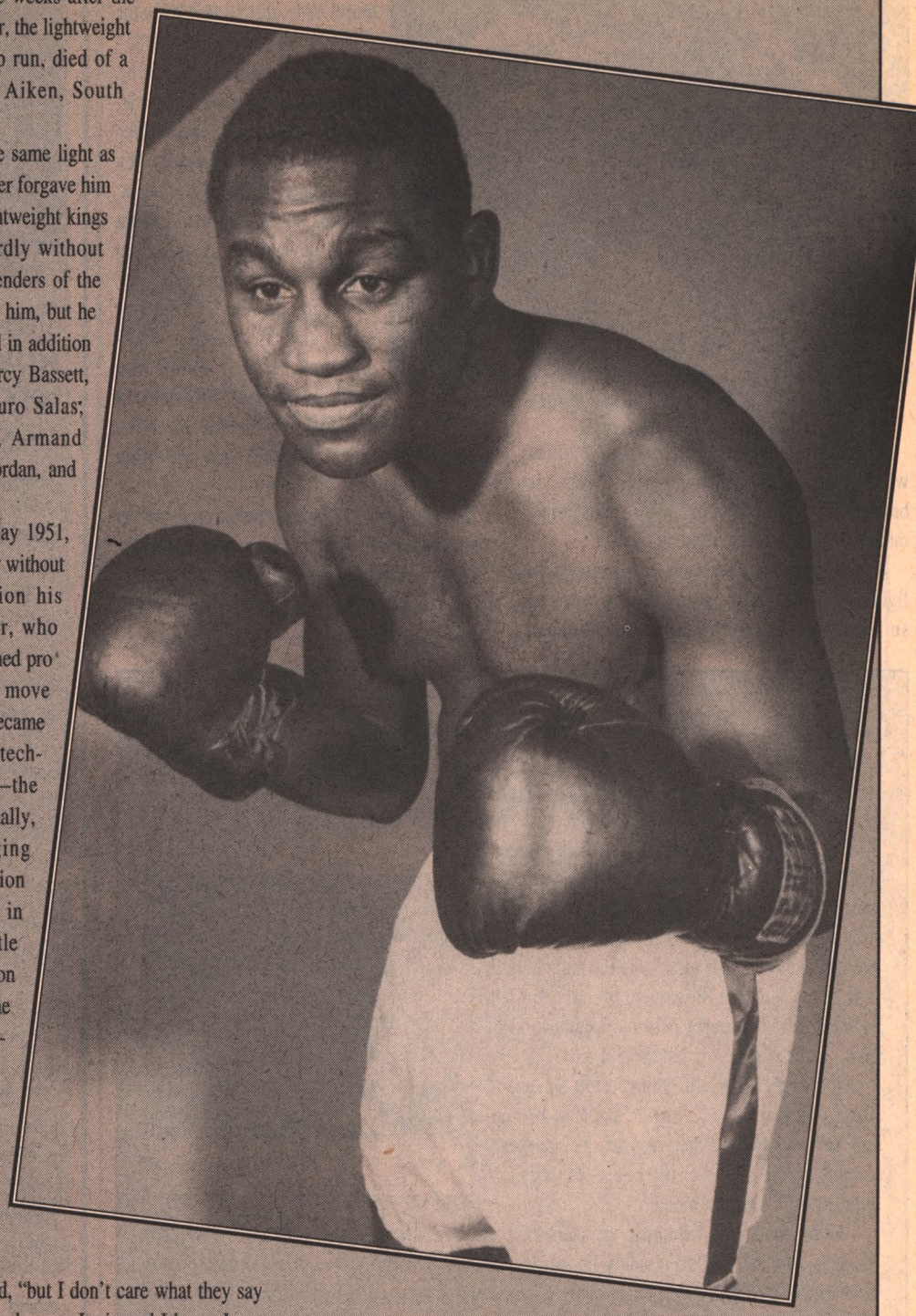
–Nigel Collins

JIMMY CARTER, 1923-1994

On September 21, less than three weeks after the passing of Ike Williams, Jimmy Carter, the lightweight who ended Williams' championship run, died of a heart attack in his hometown of Aiken, South Carolina. He was 70.

Carter was not remembered in the same light as Williams. In fact, some historians never forgave him for dethroning one of the greatest lightweight kings of all-time. He was, however, hardly without credentials. All the 135-pound contenders of the early-'50s were sure they could whip him, but he reigned a then-record three times, and in addition to Williams, defeated Bud Smith, Percy Bassett, Enrique Bolanos, Art Aragon, Lauro Salas, George Araujo, Tommy Collins, Armand Savoie, Paddy DeMarco, and Don Jordan, and drew with Sandy Saddler.

After Carter upset Williams in May 1951, Jimmy Cannon wrote, "He is a fighter without class." But no one could question his accomplishments. Initially, Carter, who fought out of New York City and turned pro in 1946, lacked the connections to move toward the top. Then, after his skills became apparent—he was a workmanlike technician with a dangerous one-two—the better lightweights avoided him. Finally, he was granted a shot at the aging Williams, but only after the champion saw him lose a decision to Bassett in Philadelphia. Ironically, Carter's title shot was his first appearance at Madison Square Garden. Even after he won the title, he was considered only a lukewarm box-office attraction.



It's not often a fighter gets to write his own epitaph, but during his reign as champion, Carter, 81-30-9 (31), summed up his underappreciated career better than anyone else.

"I know it sounds strange," he said, "but I don't care what they say about me. I win most of my fights. As long as I win and I know I can beat the guys around, then I don't mind if they underrate me or if they say I have no color or if they remember my name. They can say what they want, but I think I'm a pretty good champion."

In an era of great fighters, he was nothing more, but certainly nothing less.

–Steve Farhood

PACKING IN THE ZACK ATTACK?

Photo by Chris Farina

Padilla hammers Bolillo Gonzalez

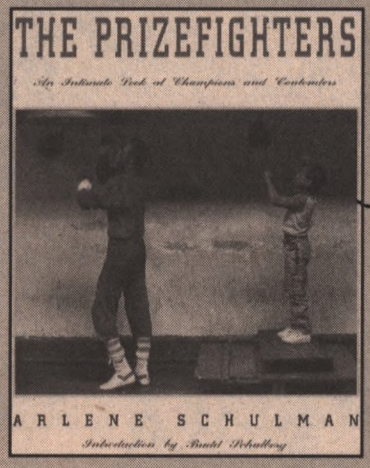
Could it be that California's Zack Padilla, whose rat-a-tat, 100-punches-per-round style brought him to the top of the junior welterweight ratings, will be forced to retire at age 31?

On August 30, Padilla was sparring with lightweight contender Shane Mosley when he suffered a dizzy spell. He was diagnosed as having a small blood clot near his brain. It is anticipated the clot will dissolve with medication.

Regarding Padilla's boxing future, there are mixed signals. As we went to press, the fighter wasn't returning phone calls. His co-manager, Victor Valenzuela, said one doctor indicated Padilla would never fight again, while another was more optimistic. For their part, members of the Nevada and California commissions made it sound like Padilla is through. "He can live a normal life," Nevada executive director Marc Ratner told *Flash*, "but can't fight here."

Padilla, 22-1-1 (14), rocketed through the top 10 by defeating Roger Mayweather, Carlos "Bolillo" Gonzalez, Ray Oliveira, and, in his most recent bout, Juan LaPorte. He was rated fourth by THE RING.

THE BOXING BOOKSHELF



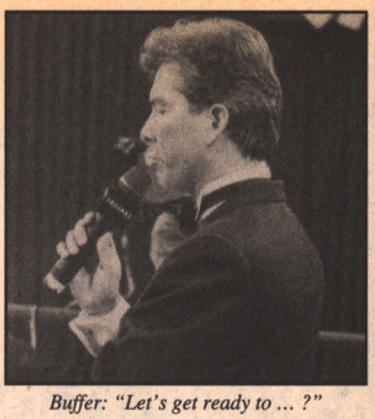
What's most impressive about Arlene Schulman's *The Prizefighters: An Intimate Look At Champions And Contenders* (Lyons & Burford, Publishers, $27.95) is that by themselves, the author's photos would make for an appealing book. And the text, if unaccompanied by photos, would be a welcomed addition to boxing's library. The total package, however, is marvelous, a refreshing and uniquely personal examination of fights and boxing gyms, but most of all of fighters.

Schulman's portraits, from Aaron Davis and Buddy McGirt to Lou Ambers and Ken Norton, are dark, moody, and morose. Each picture seems to convey the theme of the book: Boxing ain't easy, but if it's in your blood ...

As for the words, Schulman uncovers the fighters' fears and dreams, and as a result, her subjects, warriors all, are instantly humanized. The author, who has contributed both photos and articles to THE RING, meticulously planned and conducted her interviews. How many boxing writers do you know who have spent time with Azumah Nelson and David "Poison" Kotey in Ghana?

The Prizefighters isn't a comprehensive history book; you won't read about Harry Greb and Mickey Walker and the bare-knuckle days. But Sandy Saddler is surely a worthy subject, as are Chuck Wepner, Larry Holmes, Archie Moore, and a handful of others. I promise you'll enjoy this unique combination of words and pictures. Hey, boxing's in your blood, too.

–Steve Farhood



Buffer: "Let's get ready to ... ?"

THE 10 REASONS BOXERS, UNLIKE BASEBALL PLAYERS, CAN'T GO ON STRIKE

10. The last time a boxer suggested a union, his manager immediately sent him for a CATscan.

9. How many boxers, or boxing fans, or boxing writers, for that matter, can define arbitration? Or workmen's compensation? Or a collective bargaining agreement?

8. If the USA Network is forced to cancel *Tuesday Night Fights*, viewers will be exposed to additional reruns of *Murder She Wrote*.

7. C'mon now, what sense does it make for a man who gets hit in the head for a living to be provided with guaranteed medical insurance?

6. Baseball is a real sport. Boxing is a real mess.

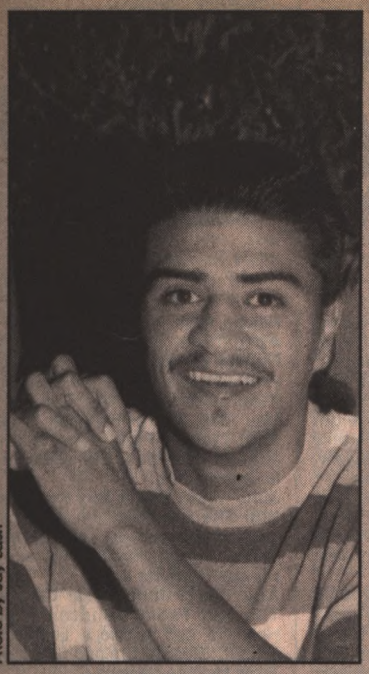
5. With no prize fighting, THE RING would have to cover cockfighting.

4. If boxers unionized, managers would unionize. And if managers unionized, promoters would unionize. Imagine Don King, Bob Arum, and Dan Duva presenting a united front. Now, do you *still* think boxers should unionize?

3. Too many of them need too much money to support the too many children they've fathered.

2. Michael Buffer would have to start his day with, "Let's get ready to scan the want aaaaads," and Ed Derian would have to get a *real* job. *Real* job.

1. Don King would promote scab talent from the World Wrestling Federation.



Carbajal: Negative press

RESHAPING AN IMAGE

Isn't Michael Carbajal supposed to be quiet and innocent and non-controversial? In September, police arrested the former WBC-IBF junior flyweight champion on felony charges related to a shooting incident at a party in Phoenix. Carbajal allegedly fired a dozen shots into the air after being denied entrance to the party. He was booked and charged with disorderly conduct.

Wait, there's more. According to a published report, Carbajal is considering filing a libel suit against *The Phoenix Gazette*, which ran a three-part series on the fighter's alleged involvement with gang members. Two unidentified men said Carbajal had coached three gang members on how to testify in a pair of murder cases.

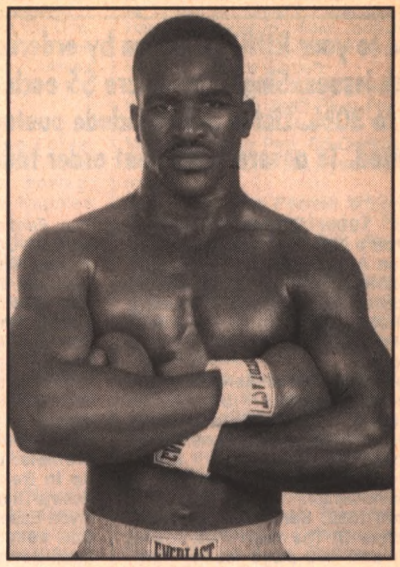
THE PUNCHLINE

"Martin Luther King taught [black] people to go to the front of the bus. Don King taught them to go to the front of the bank."

–Rev. Al Sharpton

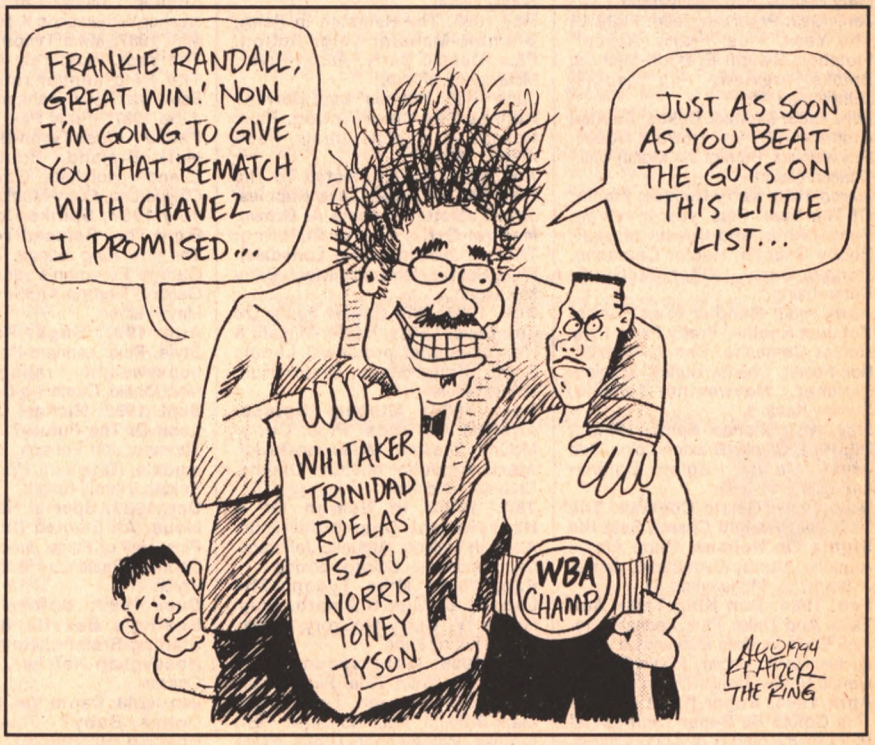
OUTSIDE THE ROPES

Former world junior welterweight champion **Battling Shaw**, 83, died in Laredo, Texas. Born Jose Perez Flores in Nuevo Laredo, Mexico, Shaw captured the crown by outpointing **Johnny Jadick** in 1933. In his first defense, he was dethroned by **Tony Canzoneri**. Shaw's unofficial record: 48-15-3 (16) ... According to published reports, former heavyweight champion **Evander Holyfield** has failed to get medical clearance to fight again. Holyfield was examined by a cardiologist in New York, and it was determined his noncompliant left ventricle has not sufficiently healed to allow him to resume boxing. Holyfield believed his problems were over after a session with a faith-healer. "If they don't license me in this country," he says, "I'll go overseas" ... Former middleweight contender **Michael Watson**, confined to a wheelchair since suffering brain injuries in his 1991 kayo loss to **Chris Eubank**, is reportedly ready to sue the British Boxing Board of Control for $1.5-million. Watson alleges the Board failed to provide speedy and adequate medical treatment at ringside.



Holyfield: Ready for more action

AL KRATZER'S VIEW



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Aug. 1981: Wilfred Benitez: Triple Crown Champ. Plus: Alexis Arguello, Roberto Duran, Henry Armstrong, Bob Fitzsimmons, Davey Moore, Benitez-Hope, Page-Evangelista, Hagler-Antuofermo II, Hamsho-Minter.

March 1982: Sanchez & Leonard: Fighters Of The Year! Plus: special year-end 100-page issue, fight, round, and upsets of year, Dwight Braxton, Benitez-Duran, Czyz-Sims, Pedroza-LaPorte.

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Dec. 1984: Hagler Hammers Hamsho. Plus: Barry McGuigan, boxing's best, James Broad, Julian Jackson, Pinklon Thomas.

Jan. 1985: Holmes-Bonecrusher Color Action. Plus: Gerry Cooney, pro debuts (Breland, Hill, Taylor, Biggs, Whitaker, Holyfield), Santos-Medal, Meza-Garza.

Feb. 1985: Showdown: Page Clobbers Coetzee For WBA Title. Plus: Larry Holmes, lightweights, Cooney-Chaplin, McCallum-Minchillo.

April 1985: Special Hagler-Hearns Program. Plus: British fighters, Hector Camacho, Donald Curry, Sonny Liston.

May 1985: The Rematch In Reno: Bramble-Mancini Color Action. Plus: Donald Curry, Aaron Pryor, McGuigan-LaPorte.

June 1985: Holmes' Last Hurrah? Holmes-Bey Color Action. Plus: Holmes vs. all-time greats, Paul-Arroyo, 1901.

Aug. 1985: Seven Elected To The Ring Hall Of Fame (Jose Napoles, Jake LaMotta, Panama Al Brown, Manuel Ortiz, Young Stribling, Thomas Jackling, Lord Lonsdale). Plus: Spinks-Holmes preview, Barry McGuigan.

Nov. 1985: Will Hagler Feast On The Beast? Plus: Hagler-Mugabi & Hearns-Shuler previews, Lonnie Smith, Pintor-Meza, Chuck Hull, Benitez-Moley.

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April 1986: Witherspoon Tames Tubbs For WBA Title. Plus: Dream fights, Greg Haugen, Tyrell Biggs, Mark Breland, Paul Gonzales, HBO tourney, Witherspoon-Tubbs, Frank Warren, Gene Tunney.

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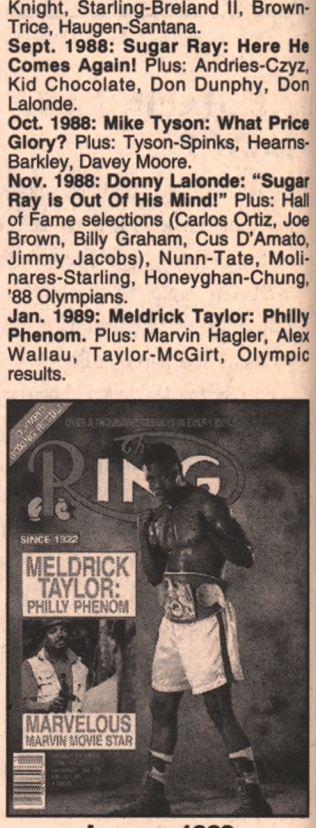

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July 1993: Pernell Whitaker Asks, "Who's Number One Now, Julio?" Plus: Carbajal-Gonzalez, RIchard Steele, The Brawl at the Great Wall, Michael Moorer, Chavez-Haugen (color).

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June 1994: Moorer-Holyfield: Slugfest Or Stinker? Plus: Terry Norris, Paul Pender, Randall-Chavez I, Gonzales-Carbajal II, kickboxing.

July 1994: "I Wanna Be Like Sugar Ray": Oscar De La Hoya Becomes A Prime-Time Player. Plus: Nigel Benn, Gianfranco Rosi, Sullivan-McCaffrey, Donald-Williams, 10 likely upsets, All-Time Top 10: England.

Aug. 1994: Bowe's Back! Determined To Do It Again. Plus: Eric Griffin, Pernell Whitaker, Ray Mercer, Roger Donoghue, State of the Game (midterm report), All-Time Top 10: The Philippines.

Sept. 1994 (92-Page Special): How Michael Moorer Defeated Evander Holyfield, By Teddy Atlas! Plus: Chavez-Randall II, Lennox Lewis, Mando Ramos, all-time greatest cards, What If ... Duran vs. Arguello, All-Time Top 10: Scotland.

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The Ring Ratings

For Period Ended
October 5, 1994

How Our Ratings Are Compiled

In each division, fighters are ranked according to their abilities and accomplishments.

Being champion does not necessarily mean a fighter will be rated at the top of his weight class.

These ratings reflect how the best fighters in the world rate against one another.

Ratings By The Editors

Records By Fight Fax Inc.

Lionel Butler

Tim Littles

Thomas Tate

Pernell Whitaker

Pancho Segura

Danny Romero

HEAVYWEIGHTS
Weight Unlimited

1. **MICHAEL MOORER** — Detroit, MI *35-0 (WBA/IBF Champ)*
2. **OLIVER McCALL** — Chicago, IL *25-5 (WBC Champ)*
3. **RIDDICK BOWE** — Fort Washington, MD *34-1*
4. **LENNOX LEWIS** — England *25-1*
5. **HERBIE HIDE** — England *26-0*
6. **LARRY DONALD** — Cincinnati, OH *16-0*
7. **LIONEL BUTLER** — Houston, TX *22-10-1*
8. **RAZOR RUDDOCK** — Ft. Lauderdale, FL *28-4-1*
9. **LARRY HOLMES** — Easton, PA *61-4*
10. **HENRY AKINWANDE** — England *24-0-1*

CRUISERWEIGHTS
Weight Limit: 195 pounds

1. **ORLIN NORRIS** — Campo, CA *41-3 (WBA Champ)*
2. **AL COLE** — Spring Valley, NY *25-1 (IBF Champ)*
3. **ANACLET WAMBA** — France *43-2-1 (WBC Champ)*
4. **THOMAS HEARNS** — Detroit, MI *53-4-1*
5. **SERGEI KOBOZEV** — Brooklyn, NY *19-0*
6. **CARL THOMPSON** — England *17-3*
7. **DAVID IZEQWIRE** — Washington, D.C. *16-0*
8. **ADOLPHO WASHINGTON** — Lexington, KY *23-2-2*
9. **ARTHUR WILLIAMS** — Las Vegas, NV *21-3-1*
10. **NORBERT EKASSI** — France *21-4-1*

LIGHT HEAVYWEIGHTS
Weight limit: 175 pounds

1. **VIRGIL HILL** — Bismarck, ND *39-1 (WBA Champ)*
2. **MIKE McCALLUM** — Brooklyn, NY *47-2-1 (WBC Champ)*
3. **HENRY MASKE** — Germany *24-0 (IBF Champ)*
4. **PRINCE CHARLES WILLIAMS** — Mansfield, OH *36-6-2*
5. **DARIUSZ MICHALCZEWSKI** — Germany *24-0*
6. **FABRICE TIOZZO** — France *29-1*
7. **EGERTON MARCUS** — Canada *14-0*
8. **FRANK TATE** — Houston, TX *34-4*
9. **MONTELL GRIFFIN** — Chicago, IL *14-0*
10. **JEFF HARDING** — Australia *23-2*

SUPER MIDDLEWEIGHTS
Weight Limit: 168 pounds

1. **JAMES TONEY.** — Ann Arbor, MI *44-0-2 (IBF Champ)*
2. **NIGEL BENN** — England *39-2-1 (WBC Champ)*
3. **CHRIS EUBANK** — England *39-0-2*
4. **FRANK LILES** — N. Hollywood, CA *25-1 (WBA Champ)*
5. **MICHAEL NUNN** — Davenport, IA *43-2*
6. **VINNY PAZIENZA** — Cranston, RI *38-5*
7. **TONY THORNTON** — Glassboro, NJ *35-6-1*
8. **TIM LITTLES** — Flint, MI *24-1*
9. **RAY CLOSE** — N. Ireland *20-3-1*
10. **STEVE LITTLE** — Reading, PA *22-14-2*

MIDDLEWEIGHTS
Weight Limit: 160 pounds

1. **ROY JONES** — Pensacola, FL *26-0*
2. **GERALD McCLELLAN** — Freeport, IL *31-2 (WBC Champ)*
3. **JOHN DAVID JACKSON** — Seattle, WA *32-0*
4. **BERNARD HOPKINS** — Philadelphia, PA *26-2*
5. **JORGE CASTRO** — Argentina *94-4-2*
6. **REGGIE JOHNSON** — Houston, TX *35-4-1*
7. **QUINCY TAYLOR** — Dallas, TX *23-3*
8. **JULIAN JACKSON** — Virgin Islands *49-3*
9. **THOMAS TATE** — Houston, TX *29-3*
10. **STEVE COLLINS** — Ireland *28-3*

JR. MIDDLEWEIGHTS
Weight Limit: 154 pounds

1. **TERRY NORRIS**
   Mission Valley, CA *38-4 (WBC Champ)*
2. **JULIO CESAR VASQUEZ**
   Argentina *51-1 (WBA Champ)*
3. **VINCENT PETTWAY**
   Baltimore, MD *37-4-1 (IBF Champ)*
4. **VERNO PHILLIPS**
   New York, NY *23-4-1*
5. **GIANFRANCO ROSI**
   Italy *57-4-1*
6. **JULIO CESAR GREEN**
   Brooklyn, NY *18-1*
7. **SIMON BROWN**
   Mount Airy, MD *42-3*
8. **CARL DANIELS**
   St. Louis, MO *32-1*
9. **JAVIER CASTILLEJO**
   Spain *36-2*
10. **RAUL MARQUEZ**
    Houston, TX *17-0*

WELTERWEIGHTS
Weight Limit: 147 pounds

1. **PERNELL WHITAKER**
   Norfolk, VA *34-1-1 (WBC Champ)*
2. **FELIX TRINIDAD**
   Puerto Rico *24-0 (IBF Champ)*
3. **IKE QUARTEY**
   Ghana *27-0 (WBA Champ)*
4. **BUDDY McGIRT**
   Hauppauge, NY *64-4-1*
5. **CRISANTO ESPANA**
   N. Ireland *30-1*
6. **YORI BOY CAMPAS**
   Mexico *56-1*
7. **WILFREDO RIVERA**
   Puerto Rico *19-0-1*
8. **OBA CARR**
   Detroit, MI *32-0*
9. **DERRELL COLEY**
   Capitol Heights, MD *25-0-2*
10. **MANNING GALLOWAY**
    Columbus, OH *51-12-1*

JR. WELTERWEIGHTS
Weight Limit: 140 pounds

1. **FRANKIE RANDALL**
   Warren, OH *50-3-1 (WBA Champ)*
2. **JULIO CESAR CHAVEZ**
   Mexico *91-1-1 (WBC Champ)*
3. **JAKE RODRIGUEZ**
   Brentwood, NY *26-2-2 (IBF Champ)*
4. **KOSTYA TSZYU**
   Australia *13-0*
5. **JUAN COGGI**
   Argentina *67-3-2*
6. **TONY LOPEZ**
   Sacramento, CA *45-4-1*
7. **CHARLES MURRAY**
   Rochester, NY *32-2*
8. **DAVID KAMAU**
   Los Angeles, CA *24-0*
9. **GIOVANNI PARISI**
   Italy *29-1*
10. **DARRYLL TYSON**
    Washington, D.C. *43-6-1*

LIGHTWEIGHTS
Weight Limit: 135 pounds

1. **MIGUEL ANGEL GONZALEZ**
   Mexico *34-0 (WBC Champ)*
2. **RAFAEL RUELAS**
   Arleta, CA *41-1 (IBF Champ)*
3. **NAZAROV OLZUBEK**
   Japan *19-0 (WBA Champ)*
4. **JOEY GAMACHE**
   Lewiston, ME *36-1*
5. **OSCAR DE LA HOYA**
   Montebello, CA *14-0*
6. **MIGUEL JULIO**
   Colombia *27-1-1*
7. **LEAVANDER JOHNSON**
   Atlantic City, NJ *22-1-1*
8. **STEVE JOHNSTON**
   Denver, CO *12-0*
9. **SHANE MOSLEY**
   Pomona, CA *15-0*
10. **BILLY SCHWER**
    England *25-1*

JR. LIGHTWEIGHTS
Weight Limit: 130 pounds

1. **JOHN-JOHN MOLINA**
   Puerto Rico *35-3 (IBF Champ)*
2. **GABE RUELAS**
   Arleta, CA *39-2 (WBC Champ)*
3. **GENARO HERNANDEZ**
   Los Angeles, CA *30-0-1 (WBA Champ)*
4. **JESSE JAMES LEIJA**
   San Antonio, TX *28-1-2*
5. **AZUMAH NELSON**
   Ghana *37-3-2*
6. **FREDDIE LIBERATORE**
   Bayside, NY *20-3-1*
7. **REGGIE TUUR**
   Whitestone, NY *36-3-1*
8. **ARTURO GATTI**
   Jersey City, NJ *18-1*
9. **VICTOR HUGO PAZ**
   Argentina *49-1-1*
10. **ED HOPSON**
    St. Louis, MO *24-0*

FEATHERWEIGHTS
Weight Limit: 126 pounds

1. **KEVIN KELLEY**
   Flushing, NY *40-0 (WBC Champ)*
2. **TOM JOHNSON**
   Detroit, MI *36-2-1 (IBF Champ)*
3. **ELOY ROJAS**
   Venezuela *29-1-1 (WBA Champ)*
4. **STEVE ROBINSON**
   Wales *19-9-1*
5. **YUNG KYUN PARK**
   South Korea *28-2-1*
6. **ALEJANDRO GONZALEZ**
   Mexico *33-2*
7. **GOYO VARGAS**
   Mexico *29-5-1*
8. **MIGUEL ARROZAL**
   Portland, OR *39-5*
9. **FRANCISCO SEGURA**
   Coachella, CA *25-6-1*
10. **ORLANDO SOTO**
    Panama *24-1*

JR. FEATHERWEIGHTS
Weight Limit: 122 pounds

1. **VUYANI BUNGU**
   South Africa *24-2 (IBF Champ)*
2. **WILFREDO VASQUEZ**
   Puerto Rico *40-6-3 (WBA Champ)*
3. **HECTOR ACERO-SANCHEZ**
   New York, NY *30-2-2 (WBC Champ)*
4. **JULIO GERVACIO**
   Puerto Rico *30-3-2*
5. **KENNEDY McKINNEY**
   Las Vegas, NV *27-1-1*
6. **WELCOME NCITA**
   South Africa *33-2*
7. **TRACY PATTERSON**
   Highland, NY *50-3-1*
8. **JESUS SALUD**
   San Diego, CA *48-6*
9. **JUNIOR JONES**
   Brooklyn, NY *33-1*
10. **MAUI DIAZ**
    San Jose, CA *26-1*

BANTAMWEIGHTS
Weight Limit: 118 pounds

1. **ORLANDO CANIZALES**
   Laredo, TX *37-1-1 (IBF Champ)*
2. **YASUEI YAKUSHIJI**
   Japan *22-2-1 (WBC Champ)*
3. **DAORUNG CHUWATANA**
   Thailand *53-4-1 (WBA Champ)*
4. **ELIECER JULIO**
   Colombia *28-1*
5. **WAYNE McCULLOUGH**
   Las Vegas, NV *14-0*
6. **JOICHIRO TATSUYOSHI**
   Japan *10-1-1*
7. **NASEEM HAMED**
   England *13-0*
8. **MARCO ANTONIO BARRERA**
   Mexico *32-0*
9. **AL KOTEY**
   England *18-1*
10. **RAFAEL DEL VALLE**
    Puerto Rico *16-1*

JR. BANTAMWEIGHTS
Weight Limit: 115 pounds

1. **HAROLD GREY**
   Colombia *17-0 (IBF Champ)*
2. **HIROSHI KAWASHIMA**
   Japan *15-2-1 (WBC Champ)*
3. **HYUNG CHUL LEE**
   South Korea *18-4 (WBA Champ)*
4. **JULIO BORBOA**
   Mexico *23-5*
5. **KHAOYAI MAHASARAKAM**
   Thailand *49-4*
6. **JOHNNY TAPIA**
   Albuquerque, NM *26-0-1*
7. **KATSUYA ONIZUKA**
   Japan *24-1*
8. **SUNG KIL MOON**
   South Korea *20-2*
9. **CECILIO ESPINO**
   Huntington Park, CA *28-3-1*
10. **KOTARO HAYASHI**
    Japan *12-3*

FLYWEIGHTS
Weight Limit: 112 pounds

1. **YURI ARBACHAKOV**
   Japan *19-0 (WBC Champ)*
2. **SAN SOW PLOENCHIT**
   Thailand *19-0 (WBA Champ)*
3. **PHICHIT SITHBANGPRACHAN**
   Thailand *20-0 (IBF Champ)*
4. **MARK JOHNSON**
   Washington, D.C. *20-1*
5. **DANNY ROMERO**
   Albuquerque, NM *19-0*
6. **DAVID GRIMAN**
   Venezuela *19-2*
7. **MIGUEL MARTINEZ**
   Mexico *27-7-1*
8. **JOSE LUIS ZEPEDA**
   Mexico *23-12-2*
9. **ISAIAS ZAMUDIO**
   Blythe, CA *36-5-1*
10. **ALBERTO JIMENEZ**
    Mexico *27-3-1*

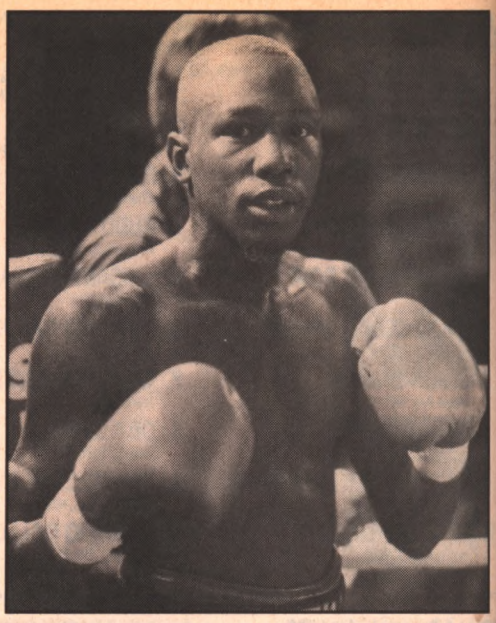
JR. FLYWEIGHTS
Weight Limit: 108 pounds

1. **CHIQUITA GONZALEZ**
   Mexico *39-2 (WBC/IBF Champ)*
2. **MICHAEL CARBAJAL**
   Phoenix, AZ *32-1*
3. **LEO GAMEZ**
   Venezuela *26-3-1 (WBA Champ)*
4. **MELCHOR COB CASTRO**
   Mexico *41-4-4*
5. **ERIC GRIFFIN**
   Jasper, TN *14-1*
6. **JESUS CHONG**
   Mexico *25-5*
7. **LEON SALAZAR**
   Panama *18-3-1*
8. **JOSE DeJESUS**
   Puerto Rico *28-2-1*
9. **FAHLAN SAKKIRIN**
   Thailand *26-2-1*
10. **ROBINSON CUESTA**
    Panama *23-1*

POUND-FOR-POUND

1. **PERNELL WHITAKER**
   Welterweight
2. **JAMES TONEY**
   Super Middleweight
3. **ORLANDO CANIZALES**
   Bantamweight
4. **RICARDO LOPEZ**
   Strawweight
5. **CHIQUITA GONZALEZ**
   Junior Flyweight
6. **MICHAEL CARBAJAL**
   Junior Flyweight
7. **ROY JONES**
   Middleweight
8. **GERALD McCLELLAN**
   Middleweight
9. **FRANKIE RANDALL**
   Junior Welterweight
10. **FELIX TRINIDAD**
    Welterweight

New Faces



PRO RECORD

1993		
April 23	Joey Lopez, Memphis, TN	KO 1
Sept. 10	Hector Lara, San Antonio, TX	KO 1
Oct. 23	Richard Dinkins, Ft. Lauderdale, FL	KO 1
Dec. 15	Andres Gonzalez, Las Vegas, NV	KO 4
1994		
Jan. 29	Herman Ruiz Paez, Las Vegas	KO 4
Feb. 19	Antonio Garris, Charlotte, NC	KO 2
April 8	Abselon Briceno, Davenport, IA	KO 6
Sept. 12	Ramon Gonzalez, Las Vegas	KO 1

RECORD:	FIGHTS	WON	LOST	DREW	KO
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Tim Austin

Bantamweight

By Jack Welsh

Tim Austin is a rarity among boxing's new breed, most of whom think boxing history began with the crowning of Mike Tyson. Born five weeks after Ali-Frazier I, Austin, a bronze medalist at the 1992 Olympic Games, has a deep sense of awareness of his native Cincinnati's legacy in The Sweet Science. Cincinnati has produced four world champions, and should Austin, 8-0 (8), continue his progress, he could become number five.

The 23-year-old Austin, who fights under the promotional banner of Don King, has showed surprising maturity as a pro. Though Oscar De La Hoya, the USA's only gold medalist in Barcelona, has garnered most of the publicity afforded the Class of '92, and unbeaten heavyweight Larry Donald, who is also a native of Cincinnati, has begun to establish momentum, Austin is deservedly beginning to build a reputation as the bantamweight of tomorrow.

In reviewing Cincinnati's contributions to boxing's roster of champions, Austin seems to draw inspiration. "Naturally, the Cincinnati Reds are the main event for attention," he said, "but my city seems to be reviving some interest in pro boxing, particularly in Cincinnati Gardens, where Ezzard Charles fought when he was heavyweight champion."

In the '30s, '40s, and '50s, "The Queen City" was a Midwest mecca of boxing. Cincinnati's first world titlist was southpaw Freddie Miller, who won the featherweight title in 1933. Then came Charles, who succeeded Joe Louis as heavyweight champion in 1949. Bud Smith took the lightweight title belt in 1953, and the most recent kingpin was the brilliant but beleaguered Aaron Pryor, who held the WBA and IBF junior welterweight crowns in the '80s.

(Continued on page 55)

Photos by Chris Farina

Austin overwhelms Ramon Gonzalez

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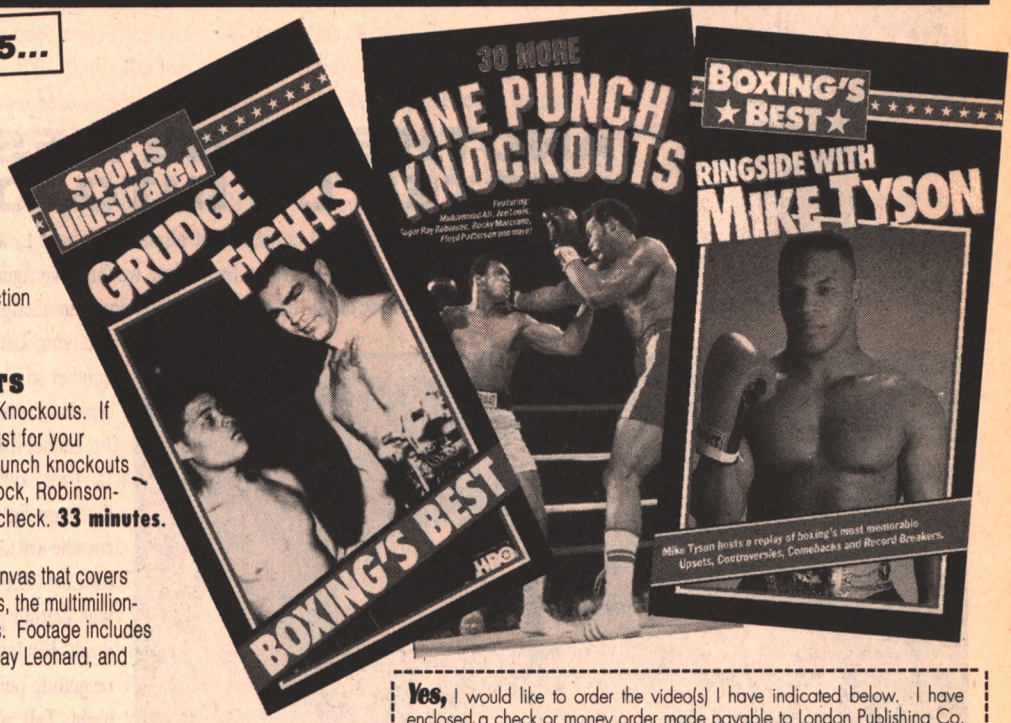

GRUDGE FIGHTS

The greatest grudge fights in boxing history are presented in this non-stop action video. See Jack Dempsey try to regain the title from Gene Tunney and Joe Louis seek revenge against Max Schmeling. Watch Joe Walcott battle Ezzard Charles and Rocky Marciano in epic wars, the Ali Frazier trilogy, plus a collection of rare footage that recounts boxing's most memorable bouts. **58 minutes.**

MORE ONE-PUNCH KNOCKOUTS

The exciting followup to Great One-Punch Knockouts. If you like knockout action, this video is a must for your collection. You'll see these fantastic one-punch knockouts and many more: Ali-Liston II, Louis-Braddock, Robinson-Fullmer, Patterson-Johansson II, Louis-Paycheck. **33 minutes.**

RINGSIDE WITH MIKE TYSON

Mike Tyson puts it all together in a colorful canvas that covers the main events, the controversies, the upsets, the multimillion-dollar gates, the records, and the comebacks. Footage includes Sonny Liston, Jake LaMotta, Ray Robinson, Ray Leonard, and much more. **44 minutes.**

THE MIDDLEWEIGHTS

The most skillful and devastating middleweights in the history of boxing are profiled in this fast-moving video. Watch stellar performances by Stanley Ketchel, Sugar Ray Robinson, and Marcel Cerdan. Also includes Rocky Graziano, Jake LaMotta, Carlos Monzon, and many others. Hosted by Curt Gowdy and Floyd Patterson. **58 minutes.**

BOXING'S GREATEST CHAMPIONS

Match wits with the Boxing Writers of America as they choose the best fighter of all-time from each division and then debate who deserves the title of the Greatest Fighter of All-Time. Includes explosive fight footage of Henry Armstrong, Benny Leonard, and Roberto Duran in the lightweight division; welterweights Barney Ross, Henry Armstrong, and Ray Robinson; middleweights Mickey Walker, Carlos Monzon, and Ray Robinson; light heavyweights Bob Fitzsimmons, Billy Conn, and Archie Moore; heavyweights Muhammad Ali, Rocky Marciano, and Joe Louis. **60 minutes.**

THE HEAVYWEIGHTS: "THE BIG PUNCHERS"

The biggest draw in sports today is the heavyweight knockout artist. This hard-hitting video explores boxing's most famous punchers. A sample of the action included in this video are clips of Dempsey's savage victory over Willard, the second Louis-Schmeling fight, Marciano vs. Walcott, and Frazier vs. Ali. **59 minutes.**

GREAT ONE-PUNCH KNOCKOUTS

You've got a ringside seat for a heart-stopping lineup of boxing's most exciting knockouts, including Muhammad Ali-George Foreman, Ezzard Charles-Joe Walcott, Jim Corbett-Bob Fitzsimmons, Rocky Marciano-Joe Walcott, Sugar Ray Robinson-Rocky Graziano, and many more. **30 minutes.**

THE HEAVYWEIGHTS: THE STYLISTS

Host Curt Gowdy highlights the careers of the sport's finest boxers. Beginning with Jim Corbett, you'll see challengers throughout history battle in some of the most striking film coverage ever assembled. Jack Johnson displays exquisite defensive skills, Floyd Patterson shows off his peek-a-boo style, Gene Tunney demonstrates the scientific approach to boxing, and Muhammad Ali exhibits the skills that made him "The Greatest," plus Walcott, Charles, and Louis. **57 minutes.**

TYSON AND THE HEAVYWEIGHTS

Join Mike Tyson as he takes a tour through the history of the heavyweight division. Tyson adds his own insight as he analyzes the styles and lives of the men who wore the heavyweight crown before him. This fantastic video includes rare footage of Jack Johnson, Jack Dempsey, Joe Louis, Rocky Marciano, Muhammad Ali, and, of course, Tyson himself. **51 minutes.**

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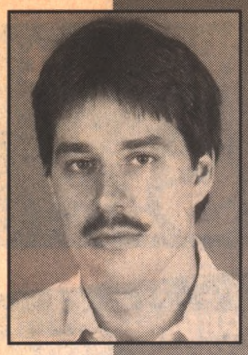


Ryan Out Loud

By Jeff Ryan

ANOTHER FINE MESS YOU'VE GOTTEN US INTO, OLLIE

So McCall and his right hand come out of nowhere to beat Lewis, and now the plot of this ongoing heavyweight mystery has a new Oliver twist. Every time we think we figured out whodunit—who rightfully killed our skepticism about the future of this underachieving division—another guy we suspected all along (in this case it was you, Lennox) ends up being not the killer, but another stiff. At this rate, we'll probably one day find out that the butler did it.

Lionel Butler.

Hey, nothing is out of the realm of possibility in the "step-right-up-and-give-it-a-shot, win-a-title-belt-for-the-little-lady" weight class. Look at Oliver McCall. The Big O's first act in gaining attention was getting punched by Mike Tyson for $2,000-a-week. His last act in gaining attention will probably be getting punched by Mike Tyson for $10-million-a-night. Talk about opportunity knocking. Only in a) boxing, b) Don Kingdom, c) America, a country that can let a convicted rapist out of jail in just three years, d) all of the above. The correct answer is "d".

Maybe it's fitting the WBC title belt, which was once dumped with much fanfare into a garbage can, is now wrapped around the waist of a guy who's managed to recycle himself. Recycling is big in boxing these days. Consider: *Tony Tucker* is now expected to be rated first by the WBA, WBC, and IBF. The last time we saw Tucker, Lewis had tied him up in a bundle and left him curbside. But Tucker employed a masterful strategy in the months following that defeat: He existed. Eventually, he was back at number one. That's how boxing works these days. You don't advance by looking good, you advance by looking less bad than the guys rated above you.

Boxing always has been the sports world's theater of the absurd, but now, it seems, it's been divided into a multiplex where a half-dozen absurdities play at once. As we went to press, George Burns Foreman was scheduled to roll his wheelchair out to ring-center and meet Michael Moorer on November 5. If Foreman wins, and—now here's a line that will always have a place in boxing—*weirder things have happened*, the most prestigious prize in

Photo by Marc Y. Morris

It seems as if no one can believe it: Oliver McCall is the new WBC heavyweight champion. Flanking "The Atomic Bull" are Don King and co-manager Jimmy Adams.

sports will be shared by a 46-year-old and Oliver McCall. If they ever signed that title-unification bout, I'd call Dr. Kevorkian and beg him to fit me into the appointment book for the following afternoon.

The truth is, the fight game has an insurance policy against such a unification matchup. The policy was already being pedaled hours after the McCall-Lewis bout by Don King, the official salesman for Mutual of Brouhaha. As we were so loudly informed, King now again owns a piece of the heavyweight crown. (If, as Foreman once said, King is the Saddam Hussein of boxing, then his recapturing the WBC title is like Iraq reinvading Kuwait.) There will be no talk of unification because King intends to keep the WBC title safe until "Leg-Iron Mike" turns in his tin cup and walks free in May.

And how does King intend to keep it safe? By matching McCall with challengers who have little chance of even connecting with the apple cart, let alone upsetting it. The first safe opponent will be Peter McNeeley, to be followed by Bruce Seldon. Or Frans Botha. Maybe before the Botha bout King will pose with the fighters for the poster, and we can call that puppet show "Cuckoo, Frans, and Ollie."

How did the heavyweight ranks get into this mess? Let's take off those thumbless gloves and point fingers. The first one points to Tokyo. Everything was going along fine until Buster Douglas knocked Tyson's senses all the way to Osaka. At first, it appeared to be the best thing that could have happened to the division, with His Arrogance and his thug act removed from the throne. But Party Time quickly turned into Parity Time.

First Douglas mistook the Fixin's Bar at Roy Rogers for a training table. Then Tyson got slammer time, Evander Holyfield and his part-time promoter tried to deliver "Hammer Time," and after Holyfield, Riddick Bowe, Fan Man, and Lewis all crash-landed, we came back full circle to the bombastic King and bad grammar time.

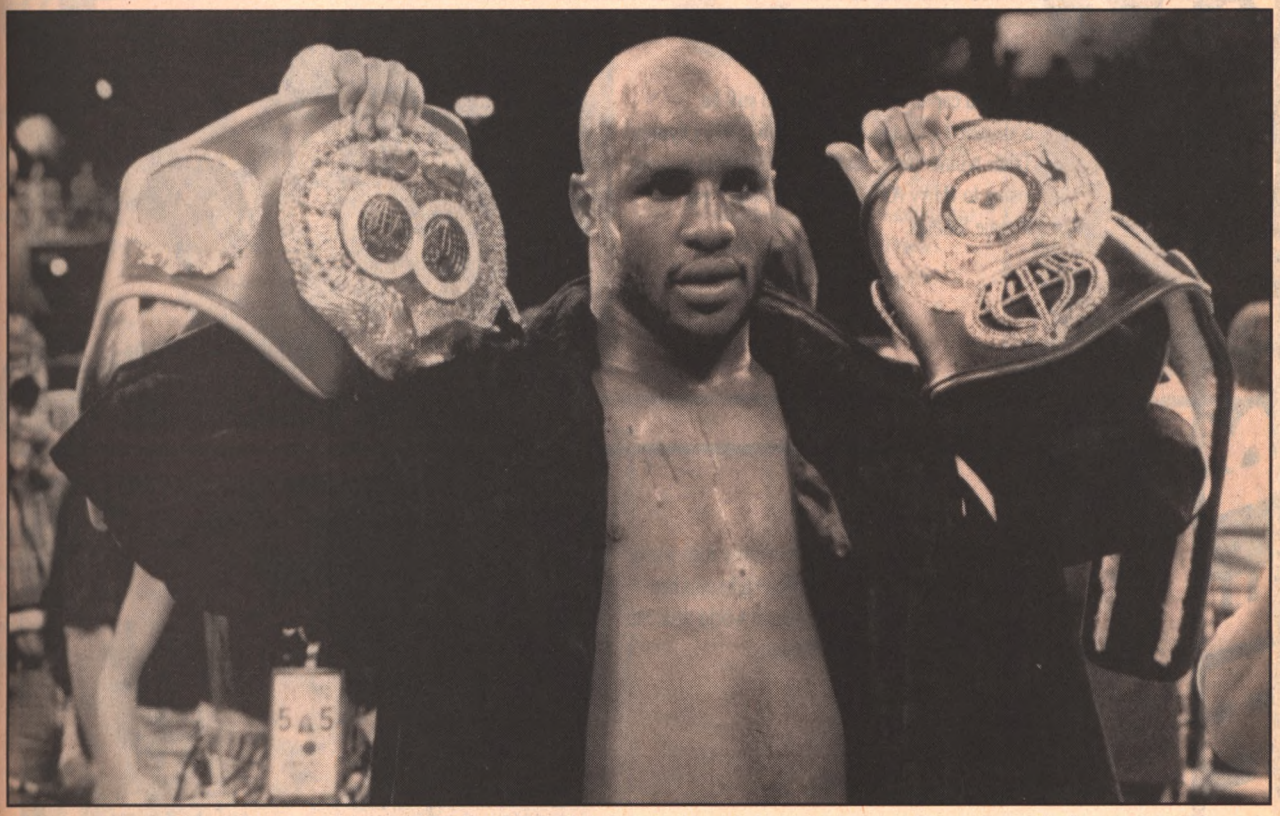
The second finger points to Bowe and his manager, Rock Newman. Trashing the WBC belt *was* a good idea, but it was only step one in ridding boxing of the WBC. Step two would have been Bowe establishing himself as a true, dominant champion, beating Lewis for the WBC strap, then trashing it all over again. And maybe dumping the other belts, too. But Bowe got fat and unmotivated and didn't fulfill the most important part of his mission. The result was that he didn't weaken the WBC, he only split the titles again. And a split heavyweight title has always been the first ingredient in the recipe for chaos.

Now, because he has alienated the WBC, yet is talented enough to remain a threat to Moorer (who will take no serious risks while awaiting the McCall-Tyson winner), Bowe knows omission. His next title shot should come no sooner than late-'95 or beyond. Rather than campaign for a crack at a belt, Bowe might have better luck trying to regain his amateur status and win the gold medal in Atlanta at the '96 Olympics. Does his headgear still fit?

Funny how the forces of good and evil, overachieving and underachieving, and thin and fat always seem to provide the strangest fallout when they collide in the heavyweight ranks. It suddenly appears Moorer, thought by many to be just a built-up light heavyweight who caught Holyfield at the perfect time, may indeed be the best big man in the world. And Tyson, no matter what kind of physical and mental shape he's in, seems certain to be a champion. At least the WBC champion.

Meanwhile, King is again standing hair and shoulders above his counterparts, and a whole shelf-full of tomato cans is in demand again. Suddenly, it's hip to be Joe Hipp.

Ah, yes, boxing's glamour division. Where Seldon is heard an encouraging word and the title picture is cloudy all day. ■



As we went to press, Michael Moorer, who holds the WBA and IBF title belts, was scheduled to defend against George Foreman. Be sure that if Moorer is victorious, he'll be careful to keep the titles until a multimillion-dollar superfight vs. Mike Tyson materializes.

THE RING'S EXCLUSIVE

PHOTO QUIZ TEST

Can you identify the fighters in these photos? Award yourself 10 points for each question you answer correctly. If you score a total of 90-100 points, consider yourself a world champion. If you score 70-80 points, you rate as a top-10 contender. If you score 50-60 points, you're a clubfighter at best. Less than 50 points? Eat another piece of cheesecake and forget about that morning roadwork.

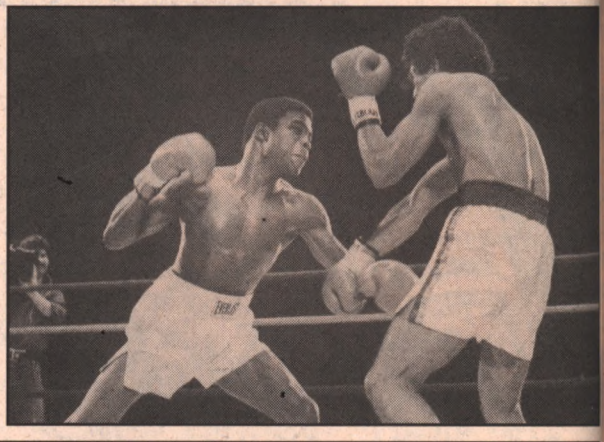
THIS MONTH: TV STARS OF THE EARLY-'80s

1

Pity the poor middleweights who contended during the reign of Marvin Hagler. This 160-pounder beat Murray Sutherland and Alex Ramos, but lost to James Shuler.

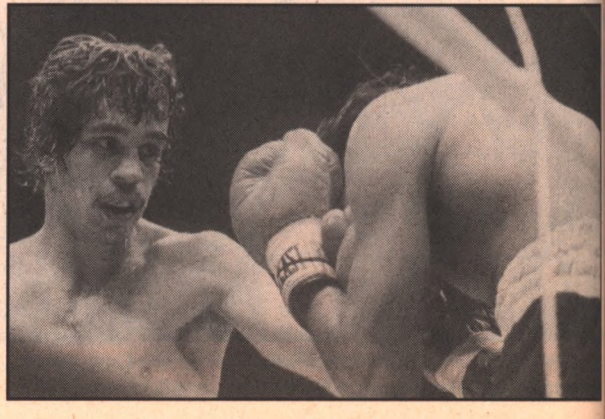
2

Can you capture a world title and still be considered a disappointment? This 1980 Olympic Trials winner never realized his potential as a pro, losing to Harry Arroyo, Gene Hatcher, and Ronnie Shields.



3

The temperature in the ring invariably rose when this New York City junior lightweight climbed through the ropes. He never won a world title, but did manage to kayo Sean O'Grady.



YOUR BOXING IQ

4

The good news: He defeated Pipino Cuevas. The bad news: He lasted 102 seconds in his try at the world title.

5

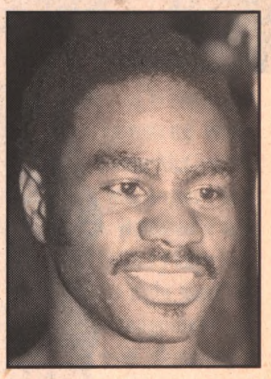
In recent years, Chicago has produced only a handful of world-class fighters. This middleweight scored some quickie kayos, and suffered some early knockout losses, too.

6

Like a million fighters before and after, this fighter was supposed to earn the cruiserweight division some respect. At least he beat Trevor Berbick.

7

This featherweight from Louisiana was an amateur star and a decent, but hardly exceptional, pro. He ended up becoming a trialhorse.



8

There wasn't a flashier fighter than this speedy welterweight contender. His style didn't help him in his title fight with Donald Curry, which lasted six rounds.

9

Looking at this photo, the nickname certainly fit the body. A perennial contender, this Duva-stable fighter went to war with, among others, Frank Fletcher and John Mugabi.

10

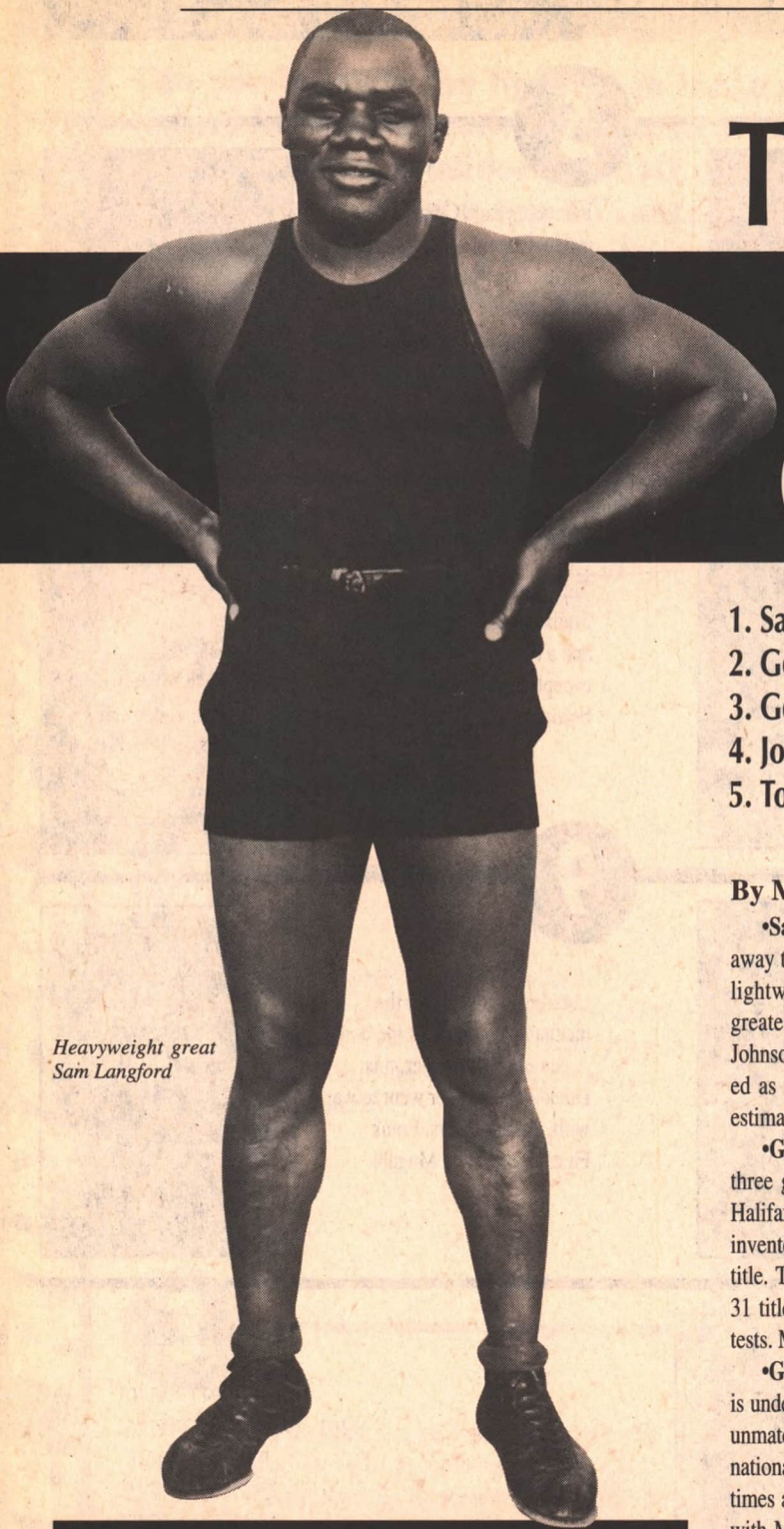
If punching power guaranteed success, this 6'2" middleweight would have reigned supreme. His biggest win was a kayo of Tony Sibson.

ANSWERS:

1) James Kinchen
2) Joe Manley
3) John Verderosa
4) Roger Stafford
5) John Collins
6) ST Gordon
7) Richard Savage
8) Nino LaRocca
9) James "Hard Rock" Green
10) Don Lee

The Best Of A Nation

The All-Time Top 10 Of Canada



Heavyweight great Sam Langford

1. Sam Langford
2. George Dixon
3. George Chuvalo
4. Johnny Coulon
5. Tommy Burns
6. Lou Brouillard
7. Jack Delaney
8. Arthur Pelkey
9. Don Lalonde
10. Yvon Durelle

By Murray Greig

Who was the best British fighter of all-time? The best Mexican? The best Japanese? The debate will rage forever. In an attempt to fuel the fire, or at least offer some perspective, THE RING has asked several of its correspondents to compile their personal top-10 lists.

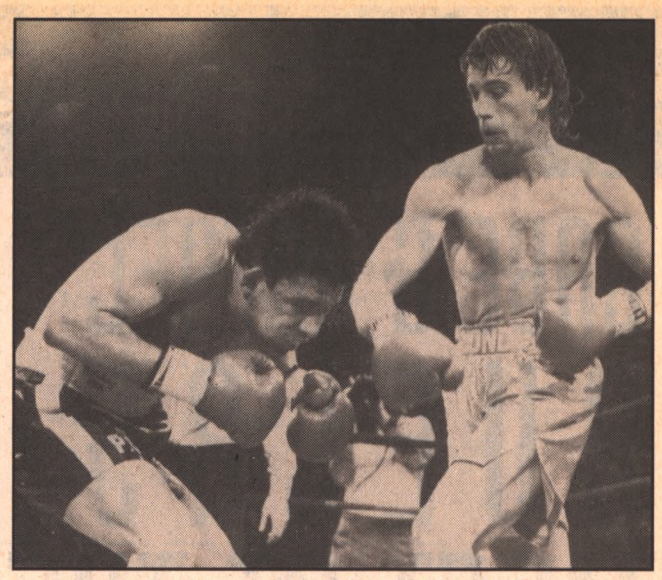
•**Sam Langford** was born in Weymouth, Nova Scotia, in 1886, and moved away to Cambridge, Massachusetts, as a child. Turned pro as a 16-year-old lightweight. Immortal "Boston Tar Baby" stood only 5'8", but gained greatest fame as a heavyweight. Faced fellow black heavyweights Jack Johnson, Joe Jeannette, and Harry Wills, whom he fought 16 times. Listed as 187-50-47 (116) with 4 no-decisions and 3 no-contests, but actual estimates put his total bouts at more than 500.

•**George Dixon** is regarded by most historians as one of the two or three greatest featherweights of all-time. "Little Chocolate" was born in Halifax, Nova Scotia, in 1870, and turned pro at 16. A true innovator, he invented shadowboxing and became the first black fighter to win a world title. Three reigns at 126 pounds spanned from 1890 to 1900. Engaged in 31 title fights and went 51-28-45 (27) with 3 no-decisions and 3 no-contests. May have had as many as 600 fights.

•**George Chuvalo** was much-maligned, but the measure of his greatness is underlined by his accomplishments, the quality of his opposition, and his unmatched durability. A top-10 contender for more than a decade and a national titleholder for an amazing 21 years, the Toronto native fought 93 times as a pro and was never knocked off his feet. Twice went the distance with Muhammad Ali, lost in a try for Ernie Terrell's WBA title, and gave Floyd Patterson all he could handle in 1965's Fight of the Year. Was stopped only twice, by Joe Frazier and George Foreman. Defeated, among others, Doug Jones, Jerry Quarry, and Cleveland Williams.

•**Johnny Coulon** was born in Toronto in 1889. Moved to Chicago as a child and started boxing in his teens. Nicknamed "The Chicago Spider," won the vacant world bantamweight title by kayoing Jim Kendrick in

George Chuvalo hammers Manuel Ramos during their September 1968 battle at Madison Square Garden. Chuvalo won by fifth-round stoppage.



Don Lalonde, who reigned as WBC light heavyweight champion, took a giant step toward that status by defeating rugged Mustafa Hamsho in May 1987.

A true fighting champion, he risked the crown three times in five weeks in 1911, and twice in 15 days in 1912. Twice defeated former titlist Frankie Conley in championship bouts.

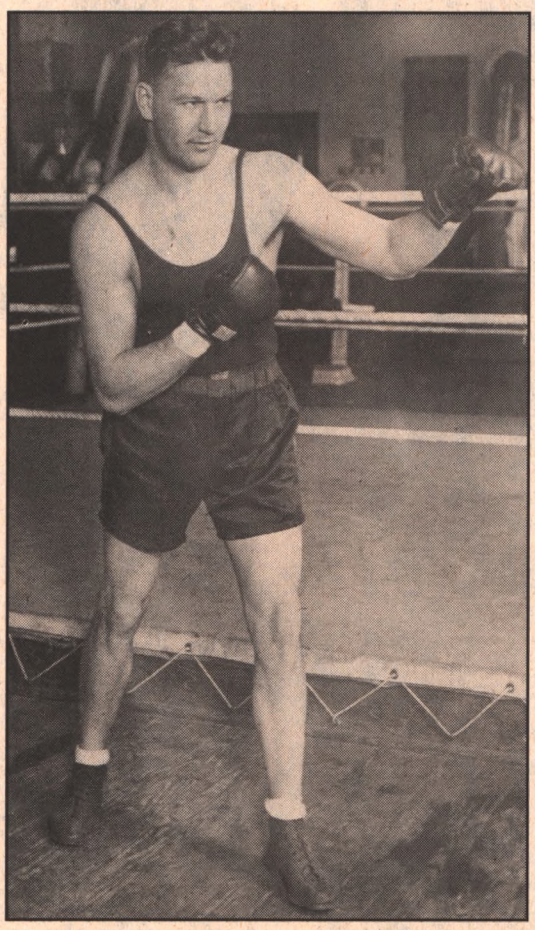
•**Tommy Burns** was often vilified as the worst of heavyweight champions, but he deserved better. An outstanding hockey and lacrosse player in his hometown of Hanover, Ontario, he started out as a welterweight, and despite lack of size (5'7", 170-180 pounds), claimed the heavyweight crown by outpointing Marvin Hart in 1906. Made 11 successful defenses before being brutally kayoed by Jack Johnson in 1908. Defeated, among others, Fireman Jim Flynn and Philadelphia Jack O'Brien.

•**Lou Brouillard** was a compact southpaw slugger with paralyzing power in both fists. A native of Eugene, Quebec, he won the world welterweight crown by outpointing Young Jack Thompson in 1931. After losing in his first defense to Jackie Fields, he rose to middleweight and won NBA honors by kayoing Ben Jeby. Lost title to Vince Dundee, then twice failed to regain it in bouts vs. Marcel Thil, losing both by DQ. Stopped only once, by Tiger Jack Fox, in career that spanned 140 bouts and 13 years.

•**Jack Delaney**, born Ovila Chapdelaine in St. Francis, Quebec, in 1900, was nicknamed "The Rapier Of The North." Part of the golden age of light heavyweights, he scored a pair of quick kayos of the great Tiger Flowers and won three of four from another all-time great, Paul Berlenbach. Won world title by defeating Berlenbach on points in 1926. Never defended, instead rising to heavyweight, where he faced, among others, Johnny Risko and Jack Sharkey.

•**Arthur Pelkey** was born in Chatham, Ontario, in 1884. A heavyweight, he scored a dozen consecutive kayos before battling Tommy Burns, Jess Willard, and Jim Coffey to no-decisions. Part of the White Hope era, he won the White heavyweight championship via eerie first-round kayo of Luther McCarty in Calgary in 1913. McCarty died in the ring and Pelkey was arrested and charged with murder by the Northwest Mounted Police. Released a few days later, he was never the same, losing 12 of his last 15 bouts by kayo.

•**Don Lalonde** benefited from awesome power in his right hand, as well as the shrewd management of American handler Dave Wolf. Winnipeg's "Golden Boy" was one of the sport's brightest stars in the mid-'80s. Won the vacant WBC light heavyweight title by crushing Eddie Davis in 1987, and successfully defended against Leslie Stewart. Biggest bout was November 1988 defense against Sugar Ray Leonard, for which he earned incredible $5-million purse. Managed to floor his opponent, but nonetheless suffered a ninth-round kayo. Retired after dropping decision to cruiserweight champion Bobby Czyz in 1992.



Welter and middleweight champion Lou Brouillard

•**Yvon Durelle** was the barrel-chested "Fighting Fisherman" from Baie Ste. Anne, New Brunswick. Nearly pulled off one of the century's greatest upsets when he knocked down the great Archie Moore four times in five rounds before being stopped in their 1958 light heavyweight title fight in Montreal. Was also beaten in the rematch (KO by 3). Reigned as British Commonwealth champion for two years and scored 50 kayos in 105 outings.

Note: Jimmy McLarnin, an all-time great who was raised in Vancouver, was left off because he was born in Ireland. ■

Murray Greig is a boxing writer based in British Columbia.

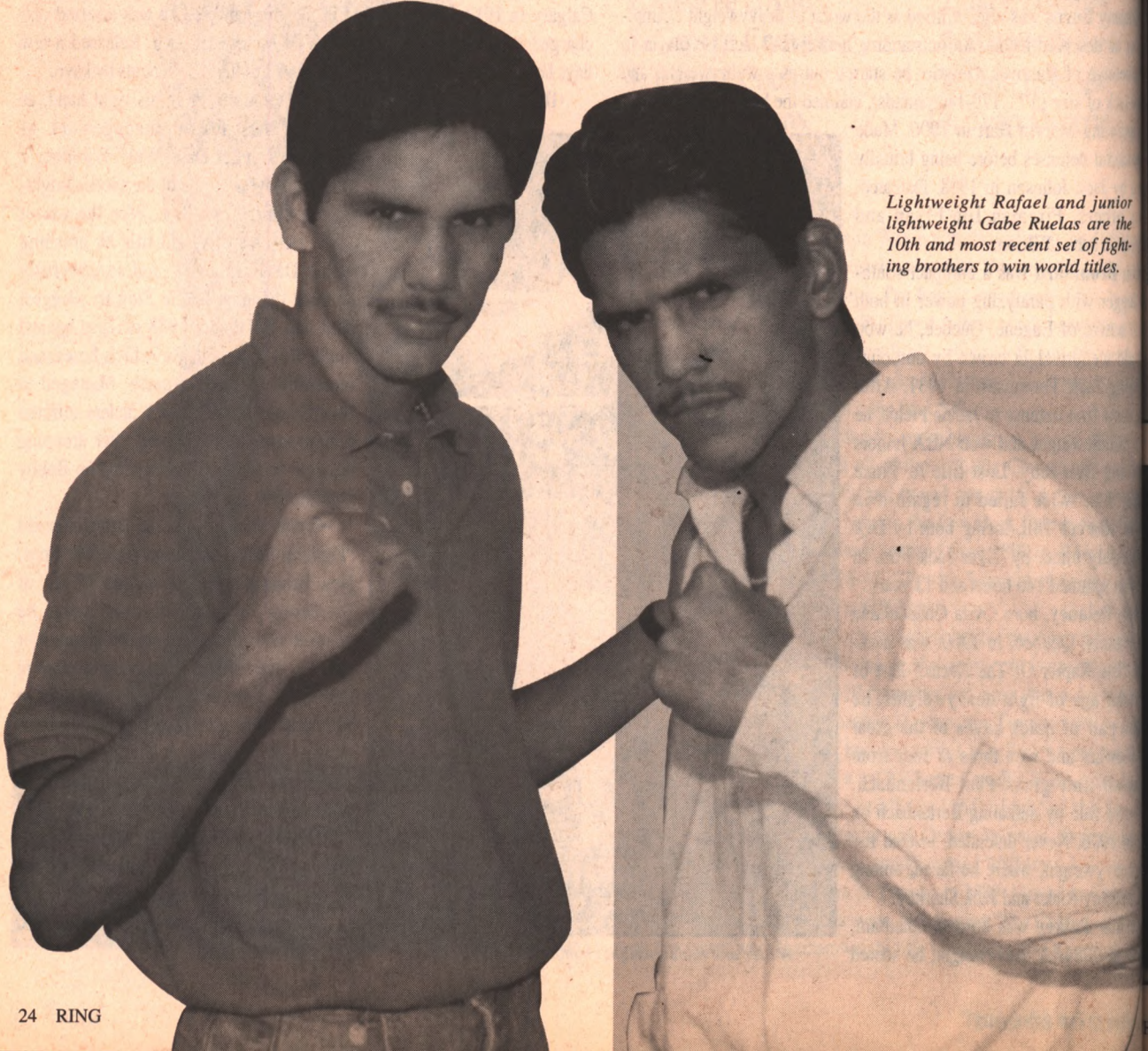
It's A Family Affair

GABE & RAFAEL RUELAS MEET AT THE TOP

By Nigel Collins

Not all sibling rivalries are of the Ca Abel variety. In boxing, brothers a quently each other's biggest suppo The brutal realities of the sport seem to di the juvenile squabbling and petty jealousie often spoil what should be a special relation For instance, if anything, boxing has br Gabe and Rafael Ruelas closer together.

When Rafael beat Freddie Pendleton t the IBF lightweight title in February 199 joy was tempered by the fact that Gabe ha en short in his attempt to dethrone then- lightweight champion Azumah Nelson the ous year. In fact, Rafael went as far as say

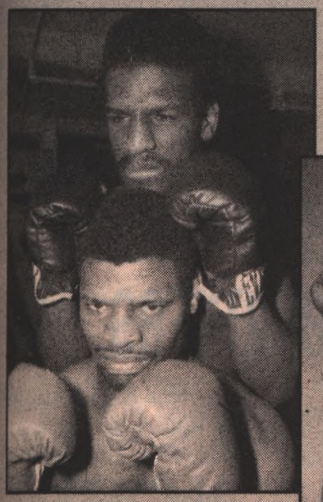


Lightweight Rafael and junior lightweight Gabe Ruelas are the 10th and most recent set of fighting brothers to win world titles.

ALL IN THE FAMILY

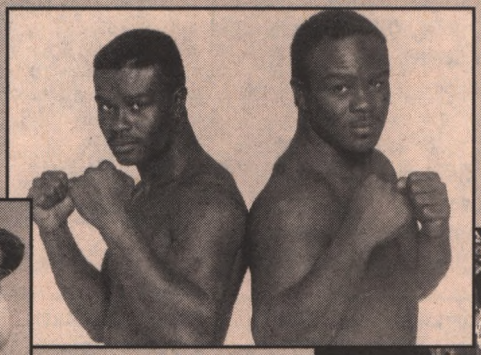
Gabe and Rafael Ruelas are the 10th set of brothers to win world championships, and the fifth to hold titles simultaneously. A complete list:

- **Ricardo Arredondo:** WBC super feather, 1971-74
  Rene Arredondo: WBC super light, 1986
- **Abe Attell:** feather, 1901-12
  Monte Attell: bantam, 1909-10
- **Gaby Canizales:** WBA bantam, 1986
  Orlando Canizales: IBF bantam, 1988-present
- **Donald Curry:** WBA welter, 1983-85; world welter 1985-86; WBC super welter, 1988-89
  Bruce Curry: WBC super light, 1983-84
- **Johnny Dundee:** junior light, 1921-24
  Joe Dundee: welter, 1927-29
- **Ernesto Espana:** WBA light, 1979-80
  Crisanto Espana: WBA welter, 1992-present
- **Khaosai Galaxy:** WBA junior bantam, 1984-91
  Kaokor Galaxy: WBA bantam, 1988-89
- **Terry Norris:** WBC super welter, 1990-93, 1994-present
  Orlin Norris: WBA cruiser, 1993-present
- **Rafael Ruelas:** IBF light, 1994-present
  Gabe Ruelas: WBC super feather, 1994-present
- **Leon Spinks:** heavy, 1978
  Michael Spinks: WBA light heavy, 1981-85; world light heavy, 1983-85; IBF heavy, 1985-87



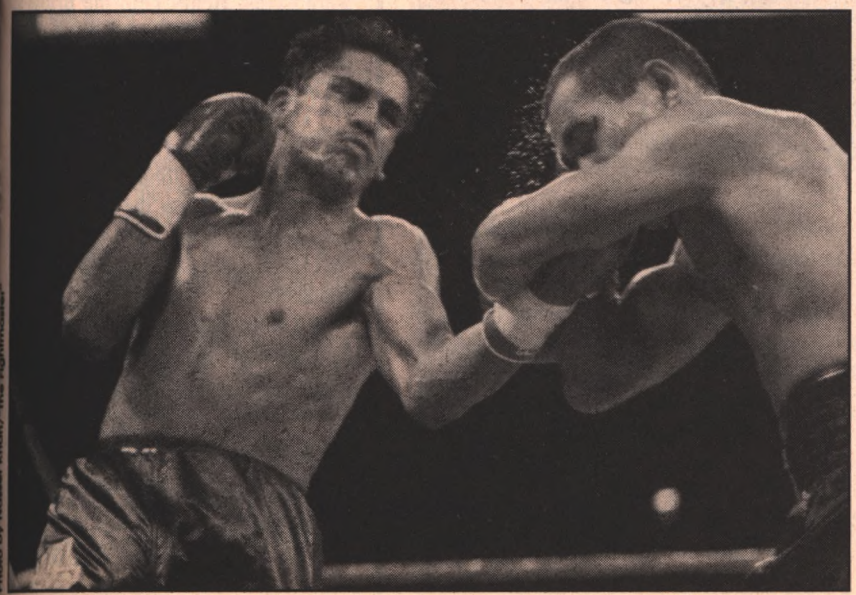
Leon and Michael Spinks

Abe and Monte Attell



Terry and Orlin Norris

Ricardo and Rene Arredondo



wouldn't feel like a real champion until his older brother (by nine months) also had a world championship belt around his waist.

Now the wait is over. Following Gabe's scintillating 12-round decision over Jesse James Leija to capture the WBC super featherweight title, both Ruelas brothers are sporting gaudy belts and wearing smiles that stretch from their native Mexico to their adopted home of Sylmar, California.

"It feels great," said Gabe. "It was kind of a race between Rafael and me to see who could have the most fights, who could win a title first. But when he beat Pendleton, I was so happy for

(Continued on page 57)

Gabe Ruelas won the WBC super featherweight title by unanimously outpointing the favored Jesse James Leija on Don King's supercard in Las Vegas. Rafael won the title in February 1994.

CHAMP AND NOT-QUITE-CHAMP

Numerous boxing families have produced one world champion and one or more fighting brothers who never quite made it to the top. A partial, alphabetized list of boxing siblings who fall into this category:

- **Muhammad Ali:** heavy, 1964-71, 1974-78, 1978; **Rudy Clay**
- **Max Baer:** heavy, 1934-35; **Buddy Baer**
- **Carmen Basilio:** welter, 1955-56, 1956-57; middle, 1957-58; **Joey Basilio**
- **Mike Belloise:** feather, 1936-38; **Steve, Sal Belloise**
- **Wilfred Benitez:** WBA junior welter, 1976-78; WBC welter, 1979; WBC super welter, 1981-82; **Frankie Benitez**
- **Jimmy Braddock:** heavy, 1935-37; **Joe, Al Braddock**
- **Joe Brown:** light, 1956-62; **Jimmy Brown**
- **Vuyani Bungu:** IBF junior feather, 1994-present; **Dudu Bungu**
- **Hector Camacho:** WBC super feather, 1983-84; WBC light, 1985-87; **Felix Camacho**
- **Georges Carpentier:** light heavy, 1920-22; **Victore Carpentier**
- **Marcel Cerdan:** middle, 1948-49; **Vincent, Armand Cerdan**
- **Antonio Cervantes:** WBA junior welter, 1971-76, 1977-80; **Jose Cervantes**
- **Julio Cesar Chavez:** WBC super feather, 1984-87; WBA light, 1987-88, WBC light, 1988; WBC super light, 1989-94, 1994-present, IBF junior welter, 1989-91; **Roberto, Rodolfo Chavez**
- **Billy Conn:** light heavy, 1939-41; **Jackie Conn**
- **Hugo Corro:** middle, 1978-79; **Osvaldo Corro**
- **Bill Costello:** WBC super light, 1984-85; **Vinnie Costello**
- **Johnny Coulon:** bantam, 1910-14; **George Coulon**
- **Jack Dempsey:** heavy, 1919-26; **Bernhard Dempsey**
- **Jack "Nonpariel" Dempsey:** middle, 1886-90; **Tommy, Martin Dempsey**
- **Jack Dillon:** light heavy, 1914-16; **Tony Dillon**
- **George Dixon:** feather, 1890-97, 1898-1900; **Clive Dixon**
- **Ralph Dupas:** junior middle, 1963; **Tony Dupas**
- **Johnny Famechon:** feather, 1969-70; **Alfred, Andre, Arsenne, Emile Famechon**
- **Gene Fullmer:** middle, 1957, 1959-62; **Don, Jay Fullmer**
- **George Gardner:** light heavy, 1903; **Jimmy, Billy Gardner**
- **Harold Gomes:** junior light, 1959-60; **Joe Gomes**
- **Bushy Graham:** bantam, 1928-29; **Franklin Graham**
- **Marvin Hagler:** middle, 1980-87; **Robbie Sims** (half-brother)
- **Genaro Hernandez:** WBA junior light, 1991-present; **Rudy Hernandez**
- **Matthew Hilton:** IBF junior middle, 1987-88; **Alex, Davey, Stewart Hilton**
- **Larry Holmes:** WBC heavy, 1978-84; IBF heavy 1984-85; **Mark Holmes**
- **Thierry Jacob:** WBC super bantam, 1992; **Herve Jacob**
- **Jim Jeffries:** heavy, 1899-1905; **Jack Jeffries**
- **Hilmer Kenty:** WBA light, 1980-81; **Forrest Winchester** (half-brother)
- **Stanley Ketchel:** middle, 1908, 1908-10; **Leon Ketchel**
- **Santos Laciar:** WBA fly, 1981, 1982-85; WBC super fly, 1987; **Carlos Laciar**
- **Jake LaMotta:** middle, 1949-51; **Joey LaMotta**
- **Kid Lavigne:** light, 1896-99; **Billy Lavigne**
- **Jesse James Leija:** WBC super feather, 1994; **Louie Leija**
- **Ray Leonard:** WBC welter, 1979-80, 1980-81, world welter, 1981-82; WBA junior middle, 1981; WBA middle, 1987; WBC light heavy, 1988; WBC super middle, 1988-90; **Roger Leonard**
- **Freddie Little:** junior middle, 1967-70; **Johnny Little**
- **Danny Lopez:** WBC feather, 1976-80; **Ernie Lopez**

The Hilton brothers: (from left) Davey, Matthew, Alex, and Stewart

BROTHERS, OTH

There have been many boxing br who left their mark on the sport despit ing to win world titles. A random sampl

- **Jimmi & Johnny Bredahl:** De duo both held bogus WBO belts, Jim junior light and Johnny at junior ba Jimmi is best-known for running from De La Hoya before being stopped in th round.
- **Henry & Jim Cooper:** The Cooper were twins. Henry held the British European heavy titles, but lost his only c the world crown when stopped by Muha Ali in 1966. Jim was a journeyman.
- **Eddie & Johnny Davis:** Both Islanders got a shot at Michael Spinks f light heavy title; Johnny was stopp 1982, but Eddie went the distance, lo close decision in '84. Eddie was also st by Dwight Qawi in a try at the WBC pound title.
- **Chris, Simon, & Peter Eub** Enigmatic and unbeaten, super middle is among the best British fighters of th 20 years. Simon and Peter are twins, w latter holding a pro victory over McGuigan.
- **Tyrone & Mike Everett:** Philadelphians failed in bids to win titles. Tyrone lost a controversial deci

- **Tony Lopez:** IBF junior light, 1988-89, 1990-91; WBA light, 1992-93; **Sal Lopez**
- **Tommy Loughran:** light heavy, 1927-29; **Charley Loughran**
- **Raton Macias:** NBA bantam, 1955-57; **George, Gabby Macias**
- **Roger Mayweather:** WBA junior light, 1983-84; WBC super lightweight, 1987-89; **Floyd, Jeff Mayweather**
- **Milton McCrory:** WBC welter, 1983-85; **Steve McCrory**
- **Terry McGovern:** bantam, 1899; feather, 1900-01; **Hughie, Phil McGovern**
- **Jimmy McLarnin:** welter, 1933-34, 1934-35; **Sammy McLarnin**
- **Duke McKenzie:** IBF fly, 1988-89; **Clinton, Dudley, Winston McKenzie**
- **Denny Moyer:** junior middle, 1962-63; **Phil Moyer**
- **Philadelphia Jack O'Brien:** light heavy, 1905; **Young Jack O'Brien**
- **Manuel Ortiz:** bantam, 1942-47, 1947-50; **Trini Ortiz**
- **Floyd Patterson:** heavy, 1956-59, 1960-62; **Ray Patterson**
- **Dodie Boy Penalosa:** IBF junior fly, 1983-85; IBF fly, 1987; **Jonathan, Gerry Penalosa**
- **Jimmy Paul:** IBF light, 1985-86; **Danny Paul**
- **Lupe Pintor:** WBC bantam, 1979-82; WBC super bantam, 1985-86; **Efrain Pintor**
- **Victor Rabanales:** WBC bantam, 1992-93; **Bruno, Porfirio Rabanales**
- **Graciano Rocchigiani:** IBF super middle, 1988-89; **Ralf Rocchigiani**
- **Gilberto Roman:** WBC super fly, 1986-87, 1988-89; **Jorge Luis Roman**
- **Edwin Rosario:** WBC light, 1983-84; WBA light, 1986-87, 1989-90; WBA junior welter, 1991-92; **Luis Rosario**
- **Dwight Muhammad Qawi:** WBC light heavy, 1981-83; WBA cruiser, 1985-86; **Tony Braxton**
- **Salvador Sanchez:** WBC feather, 1980-82; **Julio Sanchez**
- **Richie Sandoval:** WBA bantam, 1984-86; **Albert Sandoval**
- **Phichit Sithbangprachan:** IBF fly, 1992-present; **Phichitnoi Sithbangprachan**
- **Julian Solis:** WBA bantam, 1980; **Rafael, Enrique Solis**
- **Loris Stecca:** WBA junior feather, 1984; **Maurizio Stecca**
- **Mike Sullivan:** welter, 1907-08; **Jack Sullivan**
- **Frank Tate:** IBF middle, 1987-88; **Thomas Tate**
- **Meldrick Taylor:** IBF junior welter, 1988-90; WBA welter, 1991-92; **Myron Taylor**
- **Phil Terranova:** NBA feather, 1943-44; **Nat, Frankie Terranova**
- **Christophe Tiozzo:** WBA super middle, 1990-91; **Fabrice Tiozzo**
- **Vic Toweel:** bantam, 1950-52; **Frazer, Jimmy, Willie Toweel**
- **Tony Tubbs:** WBA heavy, 1985-86; **Nate Tubbs**
- **Randolph Turpin:** middle, 1951; **Dick, Jackie Turpin**
- **Pancho Villa:** fly, 1923-25; **Little Pancho**
- **Mike Weaver:** WBA heavy, 1980-82; **Floyd, Lloyd, Troy Weaver**
- **Tim Witherspoon:** WBC heavy, 1984; WBA heavy, 1986; **Anthony Witherspoon**
- **Ad Wolgast:** light, 1910-12; **John Wolgast**
- **Teddy Yarosz:** NBA middle, 1934-35; **Tommy, Eddie, Joey Yarosz**
- **Fritzie Zivic:** welter, 1940-41; **Jack, Pete, Joe, Eddie Zivic**

WBC super feather champ Alfredo Escalera in 1976, and Mike was kayoed by WBC super light champ Saensak Muangsurin in '77.

• **Lavell & Terrell Finger:** Graduates of the Class of '88, these St. Louis siblings remain undefeated; both welter Lavell and junior welter Terrell are 13-0.

• **Chris & Kevin Finnegan:** Chris won 1968 Olympic gold and held the British and European light heavy titles, but was kayoed by Bob Foster in a 1972 attempt at world honors. Middleweight Kevin also won Euro and British titles.

• **Anthony, Frank, & Troy Fletcher:** Philly trio met with mixed results. Middleweight slugger Frank became a TV favorite in the early-'80s, but his face-first style caught up with him before he got a title fight. Lightweight Anthony was a slick boxer who is currently on death row following a murder conviction. Featherweight Troy never got past the clubfight level.

• **Tommy & Mike Gibbons:** Tommy lost a 15-round decision to Jack Dempsey in a 1923 heavy title try; middleweight Mike never fought for the title.

• **Ritchie & Pinky Mitchell:** Tough-luck lightweights came along the same time as the incomparable Benny Leonard. Ritchie lost 1921 title fight to Leonard.

• **Tommy & Tim Morrison:** Tommy keeps losing the big one, but at least he gets there. Tim, also a heavyweight, is a trialhorse at best.

• **Packey & Jimmy O'Gatty:** Bantam Packey and middle Jimmy tangled with plenty of top contenders during the '20s, but neither got a title shot.

Mama Cooper kept heavyweights Jim and Henry strong

• **Jerry, Mike, & Bobby Quarry:** Heavyweight Jerry beat the likes of Floyd Patterson, Earnie Shavers, and Mac Foster, but lost to Joe Frazier in his lone title fight (in 1969). Light heavyweight contender Mike was iced by Bob Foster in a '72 title bout. Bobby was a heavyweight clubfighter.

• **Dave, Clem, Ritchie, George, & Alfie Sands:** Australia's Dave was a world-class middleweight who, in 1952, was killed in a truck crash at age 26. His brothers were all respectable fighters at the national level.

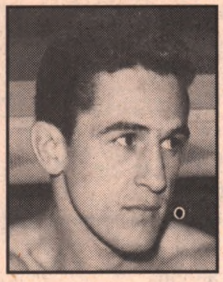
• **Edwin & Adolpho Viruet:** Both Puerto Ricans feuded with Roberto Duran; Edwin lost twice on points, the second time for lightweight title in 1977, and Adolpho lost a decision to "Hands Of Stone" in '78.

• **Dean, Guy, & Troy Waters:** Trio all won Australian titles. Troy went on to lose to Simon Brown for the WBC super welter title in 1993, and Guy lost to Virgil Hill in a '93 try at the WBA light heavy title.

Bantamweights

Eder Jofre

Sao Paulo, Brazil
Career: 1957-1966; 1969-1976
72-2-4 with 50 kayos



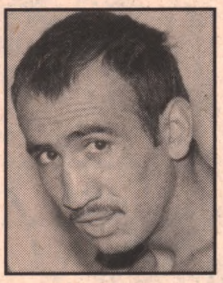
After Pele, Jofre ranks as Brazil's greatest sporting hero. A natural, the 5'4" boxer-puncher easily mastered the moves of the ring while carrying dynamite in both fists. After winning the South American bantamweight title, he came to Los Angeles and kayoed top-10 contender Jose Medel. When Jose Becerra gave up the world crown, Jofre was matched with Mexico's Eloy Sanchez in a November 1960 bout for the vacant NBA title. Jofre scored a sixth-round knockout. After two defenses, he unified the title by crushing Ireland's previously unbeaten Johnny Caldwell in 10 rounds.

Jofre made a total of eight defenses before losing the title on points to Fighting Harada in Japan. After he lost the rematch, again by decision, he retired at age 30. He returned three years later and, remarkably, won the world featherweight title by outpointing Jose Legra in 1973. After successfully defending against former champion Vicente Saldivar, he was stripped for inactivity.

The fights vs. Harada were the only losses of Jofre's marvelous career. He went undefeated in his first 50 bouts, and won all 25 fights of his comeback.

Carlos Zarate

Tepito, Mexico
Career: 1970-1979; 1986-1988
61-4 with 58 kayos

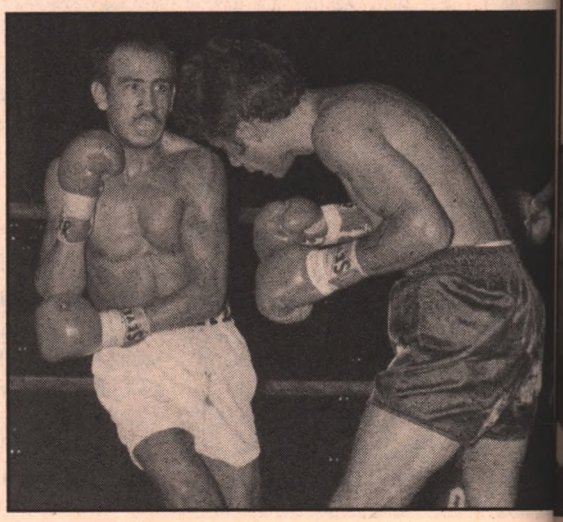


Dominant when the division was at its all-time best, the unusually tall (5'8") Zarate was an above-average boxer and exceptional puncher, kayoing 44 of his first 45 opponents. He fought in his native Mexico before making his Southern California debut in 1974. While he wasn't as popular as Mexican banties like Ruben Olivares and Alfonso Zamora, his record was more impressive.

Zarate won the WBC title with a ninth-round kayo of outstanding countryman Rodolfo Martinez in 1976. He made nine successful defenses and reigned for three years. His biggest win was a non-title bout vs. WBA champion Zamora (KO 4) in 1977. When he tried moving up, he was stopped by 122-pound titlist Wilfredo Gomez (KO by 5) in 1978. He lost the crown by disputed decision to stablemate Lupe Pintor in 1979. The verdict is considered among the worst of the decade.

In 1986, Zarate made a comeback after a six-year absence. He went 11-2 (9), but lost in title bids vs. junior featherweights Jeff Fenech and Daniel Zaragoza. Regardless, he's considered among the greatest lighter-weight fighters of all-time.

Fight fans will forever debate the merits of champion who never met in the ring. In "Battle Of the Legends," the editors of THE RING *play matchmaker and pit two of the all-time greats against each other. Three experts serve as judges. If there are particular dream matches that you'd like to see featured, please write to us.*



In May 1976, Zarate explodes onto the international scene, dethroning countryman and WBC bantamweight champion Rodolfo Martinez by ninth-round kayo.

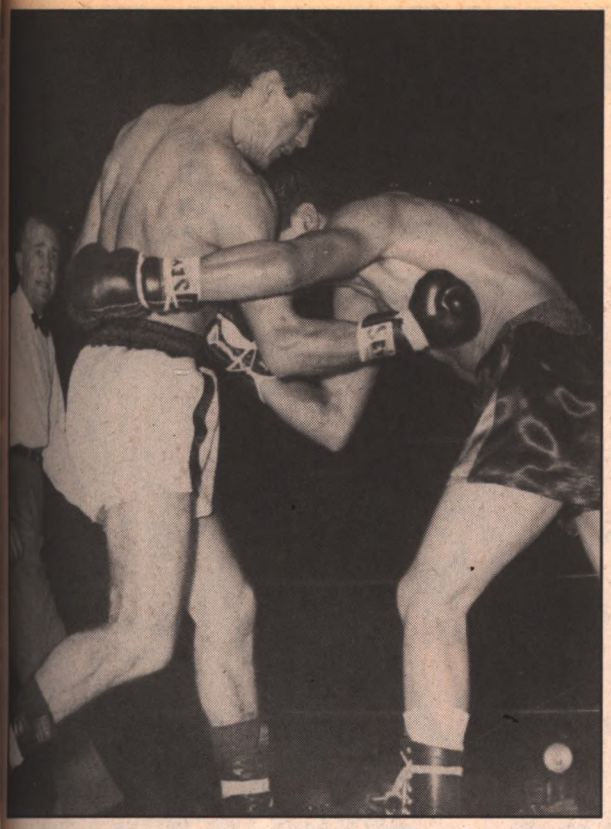
ED BROPHY

This is a great matchup between two Hall of Famers. Jofre was a sturdy, two-fisted fighter with a punch. Remember, while most American fans didn't get a chance to see him in action, there was a time in the early- and mid-'60s when he was considered the best fighter, pound-for-pound, in the world. Zarate, whose chief weapon was a left hook especially to the liver, was among the most dominant Mexican world champions in history.

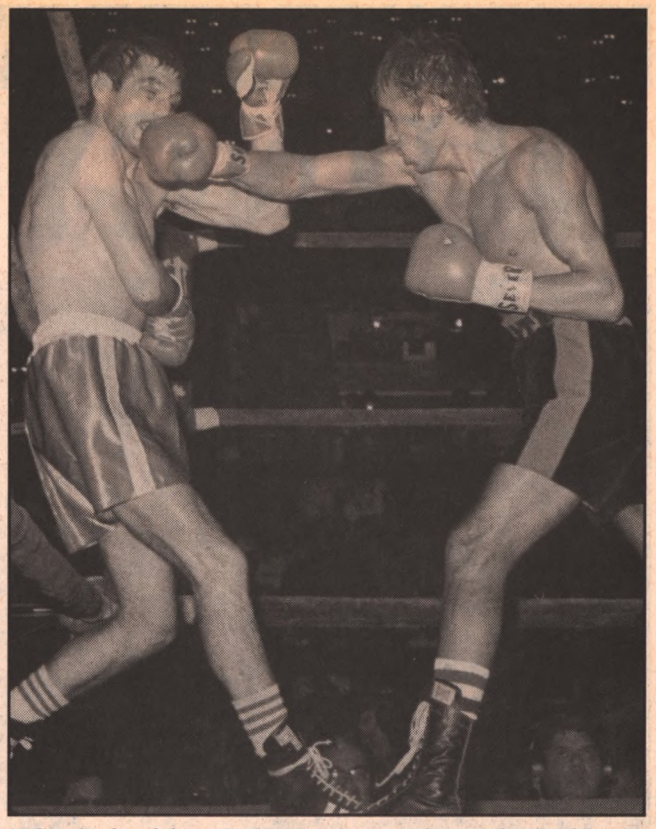
From the opening bell through the 15th round, this fight would be an illustration of why they call it the Sweet Science. I envision a very technical fight, with both boxers trading measured punches with speed and power. Each round would be a nightmare for the judges, with one fighter or the other dominant in only a handful of rounds. With both fighters so dangerous, neither would take too many chances.

While Zarate had the tools to knock out some of the great bantamweights in the sport, like Alfonso Zamora and Rodolfo Martinez, I lean toward Jofre because of his clever head movement. Over the long haul of 15 rounds, he'd score a few extra points with his ability to land clean, distinctive punches. Jofre by split decision in a fast-paced fight.

Ed Brophy is the executive director of the International Boxing Hall of Fame. Both Jofre and Zarate have been inducted

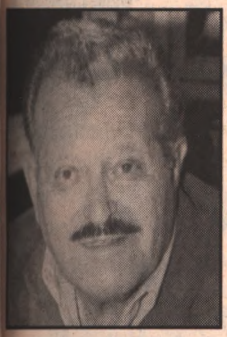


Jofre hammers a right to the body of Mexico's Eloy Sanchez, whom he stopped in six rounds to win the vacant NBA bantamweight crown in November 1960. The Brazilian made eight defenses of the title.



Making his first defense, Zarate overpowers sturdy Australian Paul Ferreri by 12th-round TKO in August 1976. The Mexican would retain the title eight more times. His biggest win was the next year over Alfonso Zamora.

LUIS MAGANA



I saw Jofre live three times, against Jose Medel, Eloy Sanchez, and Herman Marquez. When Joe Becerra vacated the title, (promoter) George Parnassus matched Jofre with Eloy Sanchez for the vacant NBA title. Sanchez brought out the Mexican crowd, but Jofre was still the favorite. From the first time you saw him, you knew he was special. He was a boxer-puncher who boxed well and slugged it out when he had to. He could stand up and punch with the best of them. And he was good defensively; punches were always flying over his head.

Zarate boxed well and hit pretty hard, but what I didn't like was he was sometimes hesitant about throwing punches. He was always depending on a one-punch knockout. A fighter like Julio Cesar Chavez wears you down. Zarate hit you with one punch, and if he hit you right, you were gone. Of course, he had that signature left hook. But when he came up from Los Angeles, there wasn't a big to-do. He was a cold fighter who lacked charisma. He wouldn't stand there and trade with fighters.

Given Zarate's advantages in height and reach, Jofre would look to make it an inside fight. Zarate would jab and wait for the knockout punch. Jofre would be the busier fighter. Throwing more punches, he'd win on points.

Luis Magana, 84, is a Los Angeles-based boxing historian and former publicist.

EDDIE MAFUZ

Jofre was a very good fighter; today he'd beat everyone. In the early-'60s he was unbeatable, the best fighter in the world. The people in the U.S. didn't know him, but he was idolized not just in Brazil, but throughout South America. He was a combination boxer-slugger. He moved well and could fight off the ropes. He reminded me of Juan Coggi in that respect, the way he could roll with the punches, then answer with some of his own.

Zarate—*ooooh*, he was good! In his prime his only loss was to Wilfredo Gomez, for whom he trained, it is said, with a faulty scale. As a result, he had to lose weight just before the weigh-in. When he lost the title to his stablemate, Lupe Pintor, who defeated him by a very close decision, Zarate was already past his prime. Zarate always knew exactly what he was doing. He had a style similar to Salvador Sanchez, though, of course, he hit much harder, especially with the left hook. He was a bit methodical, a thinking man's fighter. Like Jofre, at his best, in the early- and mid-'70s, he was among the best fighters in the world.

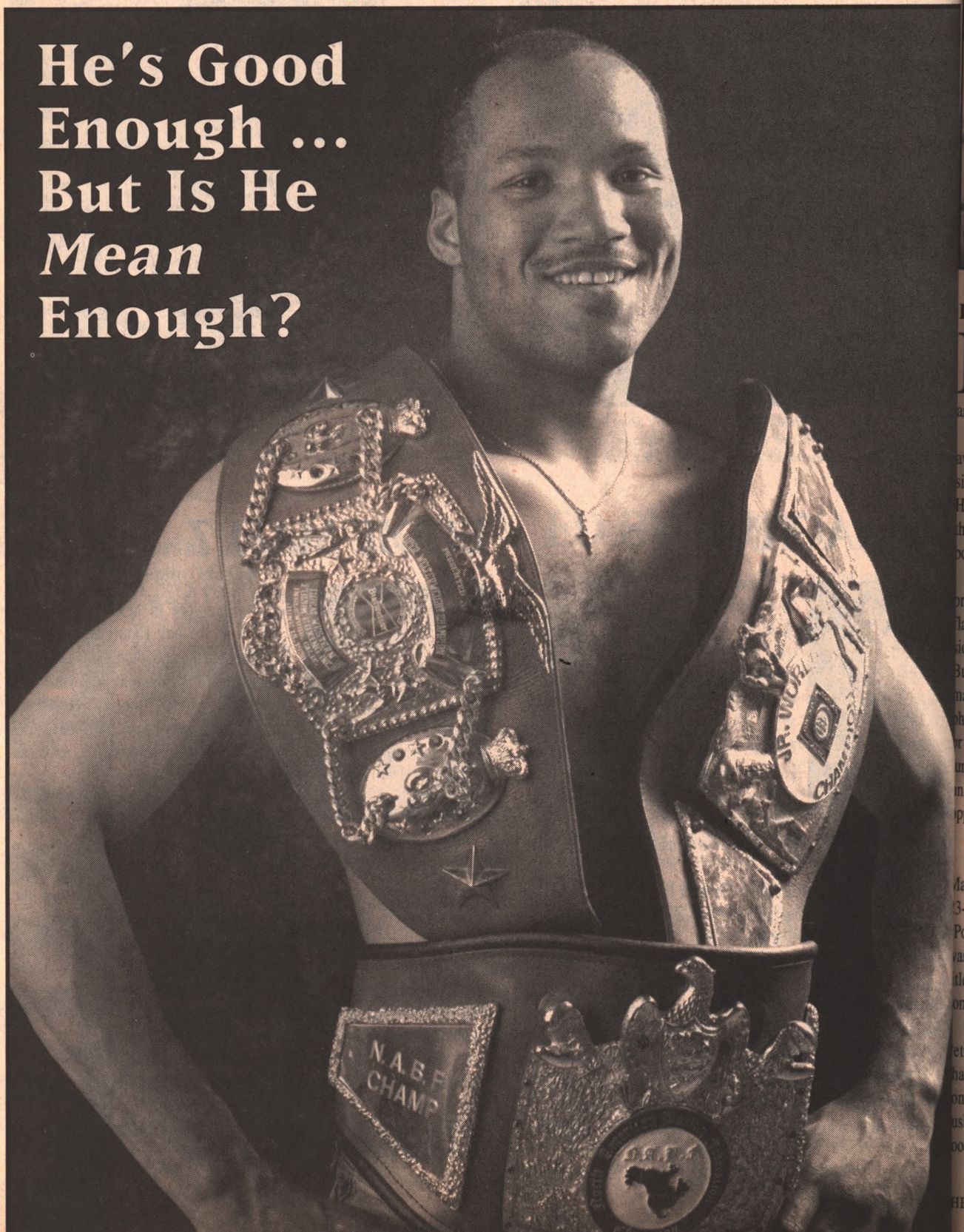
This fight is a tossup. Both fighters would try to outsmart the other, and the winner would be determined by conditioning. I pick Zarate on points in a very close fight.

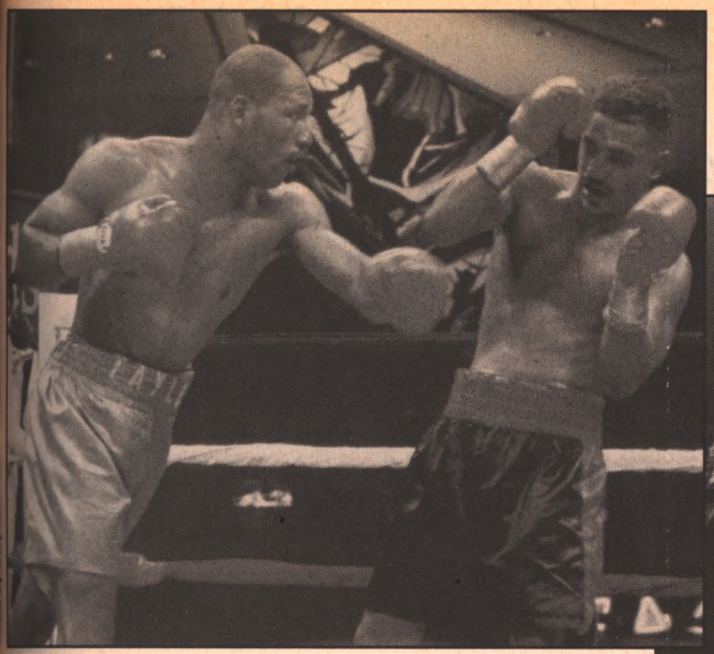
Eddie Mafuz, one of boxing's elder statesmen, works as a translator and cornerman for Don King-promoted fighters.

MIDDLEWEIGHT CONTENDER

QUINCY TAYLOR

He's Good Enough ... But Is He *Mean* Enough?





In August, Taylor continued his run toward the world middleweight title by stopping Derrick Rolon (left). Perhaps his most impressive win was a 12th-round kayo of the previously unbeaten Otis Grant in March 1994 (below).

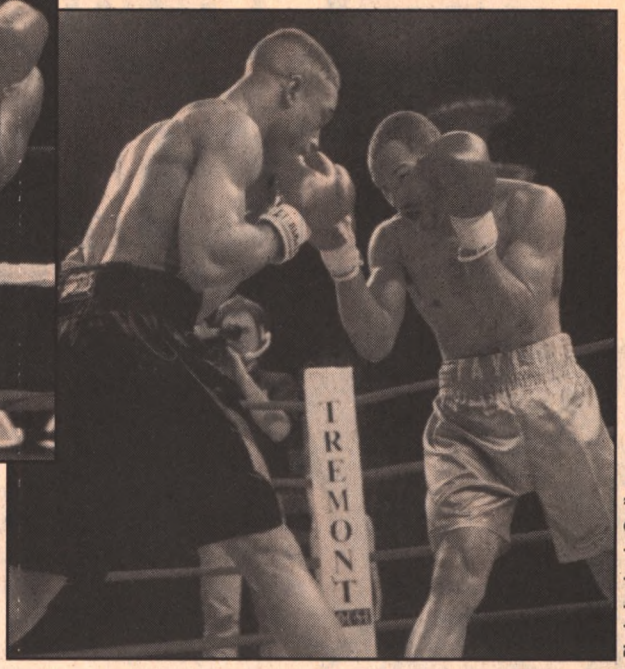


Photo by Angie Carlino

By Tom Deedy

Boxers who proclaim they're fighting to set an example for disillusioned youth are common. Fighters who actually do it are rare.

In May 1991, Quincy Taylor, then 27, walked away from the money, hype, and glitz of professional boxing. He chose values over commerce. His choice represents what is good about a sport that is often times characterized as disingenuous, bordering on ruthless.

Heralded as the brightest middleweight prospect of the late-'80s, and celebrated after flattening Sugar Ray Leonard in a sparring session, Taylor has since made peace with boxing. But is he mean enough? Does a dour streak of malice pulse through the veins of this polite, philosophical young man? Was it a lack of heart or a sense of duty that inspired his abrupt departure? He says nothing makes him angry. He says, unlike some fighters, he harbors no hate for his opponents.

Does Taylor have the right stuff to make it?

In August, at Foxwoods Resort and Casino in Mashantucket, Connecticut, Taylor improved to 23-3 (20) by stopping a game and gutsy Derrick "Poppy" Rolon, 19-2 (14), in the eighth round. It was his first defense of the NABF middleweight title and the seventh consecutive victory in his comeback.

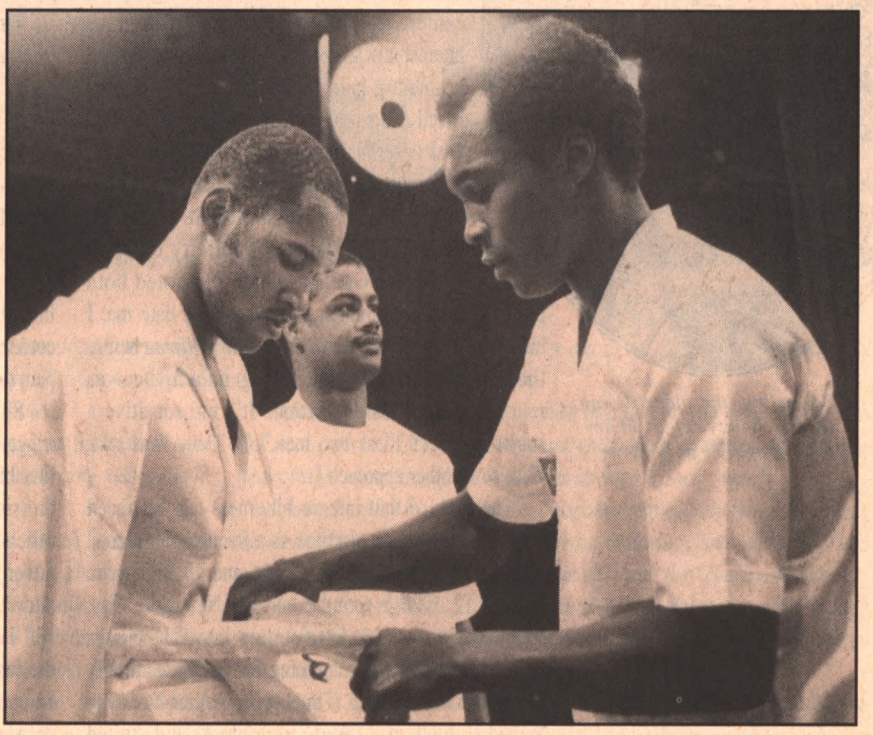
At ringside after the fight, Goody Petronelli, who trained former middleweight champion Marvin Hagler, evaluated Taylor's composed, almost detached style: "He doesn't push his punches. He snaps them, and he's got good hand speed. Boxing is a science. It has to do with pace, perspective, and patience. You'll always get your chance to punch. You have to know when. Taylor does. Without a doubt, he's a potential champ. But he's not *mean* like Marvin ... "

***

In the much-maligned realm of professional prize fighting, Taylor is an oddity, a moral man who has returned to master the less than moral world that has smitten him without mercy.

Taylor is a mass of contradictions. In the ring he's a student, a poker-faced tactician who possesses brute power in either hand. Outside, he's an unassuming, religious man who speaks with

(Continued on page 57)



Seven years ago, Ray Leonard was in Taylor's corner. The southpaw first gained prominence by flooring Sugar Ray in a celebrated sparring session. At age 31, his career is finally taking off.

By Stanley Weston
Publisher, THE RING Magazine

Time CAPSULES

Jack Sharkey

THE SHARKEY-SCHMELING FEUD CONTINUES

Max Schmeling

Jack Sharkey's death didn't end his bitter, 65-year-old rivalry with Max Schmeling. It simply ended phase three. There is still one more round to go. The big one ...

Schmeling, the oldest living former heavyweight champion, at age one in 1906.

The only photographs you'll find of Jack Sharkey shaking hands with Max Schmeling were taken at contract-signing ceremonies, weigh-ins, or in the ring before the start of their two heavyweight championship bouts. And even then one could sense the strain and underlying animosity as each awkwardly tried to avoid eye contact. Unlike those bogus, ridiculous prefight press conference insult festivals staged to juice interest nowadays, the bitterness Sharkey and Schmeling held for each other was deeply rooted and painfully real. So real, in fact, that it was never allowed to be used to hype a gate, much to the dismay of those whose job it was to generate ballyhoo. When Walter St. Denis, the shrewd and distinguished publicity chief of Madison Square Garden, which promoted both Sharkey-Schmeling bouts, planted a "you hate me, I hate you" story in the New York *Daily Mirror* before the second Sharkey-Schmeling match, he was reprimanded by Garden brass. "It's too sensitive a subject between these two men," St. Denis was told. "Use some other approach."

The birth of that intense bitterness can be traced back to a precise point in time, to a fraction of a second somewhere between 10:36:07 p.m. and 10:36:08 p.m. on June 12, 1930, a spring evening in New York City, when Sharkey dug his left fist deep into Schmeling's groin. Max collapsed, clutching his belly, seemingly gripped in convolution. Timekeeper Arthur Donovan leaped to his feet, looked at the clock, and started counting, pounding the ring apron as the seconds passed. Only a handful of seconds remained in that fa fourth round, with the heavyweight championship of t world hanging in the balance. Referee Jim Crowle thoroughly confused, failed to pick up the count. T confusion turned to turmoil as screaming managers a seconds from both corners stormed the ring.

"It's a foul!" yelled Schmeling's bombast manager, Joe Jacobs. "Max Schmeling is the winn and new champeen!"

Rotund Johnny Buckley, Sharkey's brain tru retorted in a shrill voice that knifed through the smok filled air: "No foul. He knocked the guy out! Ja Sharkey is champion of the world."

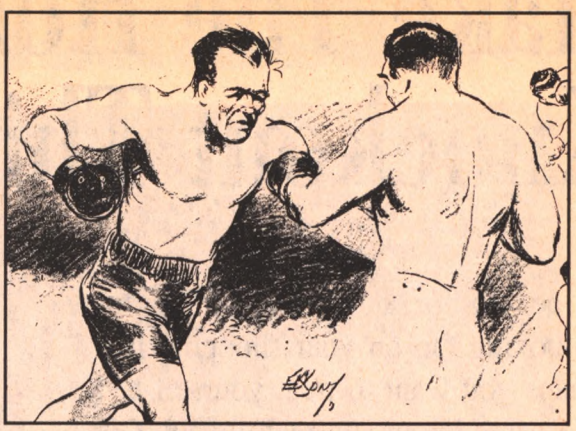
Since Harold Barnes was the only official position to have had an unobstructed view of t explosive blow, Crowley decided the judge, and t judge alone, would decide whether or not a foul h been committed. Barnes' ruling: "The punch was w below the belt line. In foul territory. He [Schmelin should be champion."

And so the man to succeed retired champion Ge Tunney on the heavyweight throne had been dragg limp, like a strand of overcooked spaghetti, back to corner, still clutching his belly, a look of excruciat pain twisting his dark-browed features.

Sharkey, certainly one of the most emotion trigger-tempered boxers of all-time, was so devasta that his first outburst, after bulling his way into t dressing room, was a blistering denouncement of tw officials, followed with a "drop dead and goodbye, I never fight again" tirade. One of the few report allowed into Sharkey's dressing room that night wo Bill Hennigan, whose gripping account best captur the loser's reaction and triggered the bitter Sharke Schmeling feud that would stretch over more than decades. Wrote reporter Hennigan:

With tears in his eyes and his body quivering fr

June 12, 1930, Yankee Stadium, New York City: Schmeling (left) and Sharkey before their bout to determine Gene Tunney's successor as world heavyweight champion. In the first of two questionable endings, Schmeling won on a foul in round four.



An artist captures Sharkey delivering the controversial blow to the body that gave Schmeling the heavyweight title.

June 21, 1932, Madison Square Garden Bowl, Long Island City, New York: Sharkey (left) and defending champion Schmeling before the match. Sharkey won by hotly disputed decision. Max's volatile manager, Joe Jacobs, is second from right.

Schmeling forces a smile as he leaves the ring after Sharkey was handed the decision—and the title—most people believed Max rightfully deserved. Sharkey would be champion for about a year.

the excitement of being declared loser on a foul, the American heavyweight champion took off his fighting trunks, put them gently to his lips, and tossed them into a bag. "This was my last fight," Sharkey bawled.

Johnny Buckley broke in, "No, Jack, it's not your last fight. We'll win the title yet because you're the greatest heavyweight in the ring today, and it was a crime for you to lose tonight."

Sharkey buried his head in his hands, and tears started running down his face. He was heartbroken. "I knew I had him beat," Sharkey said. "I won all four rounds. Easy. I was sure I was gonna knock him out. I wanted to win the title by a knockout. He came in too high. I hit him with only two bodyshots in the whole fight. The first time in the third round. That had him on the verge of a knockout. When he rushed at me in the fourth round, I started a left hook to the body. He came in high, just like he was doing all night. I thought I sunk the punch into his body. Maybe it was low, but if it was, it was unintentional. Hell, I'd be out of my skull to purposefully foul out when I had the title in my hands."

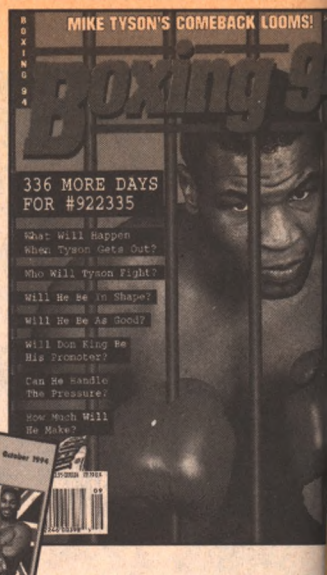
Sharkey called Schmeling "not much of a fighter who never hit me with one real punch." The resentment and underlying bitterness for the new heavyweight champion of the world was obvious in Jack's words.

Johnny Buckley was much more outspoken and equally bitter. He openly accused Schmeling's manager, Joe Jacobs, of having concocted a well-laid plan to rob Jack of the title. "That's the only way they could win, and they knew it," Buckley growled. "They planned to have Schmeling come in high when he moved into Jack, hoping that a bodyshot would land a little low so they could yell foul."

Which is exactly what, Buckley and his fighter insisted, had happened. Sharkey would not commit himself that he had hit Schmeling low. Only that

(Continued on page 60)

Make The Holidays A Knockout This Year!!



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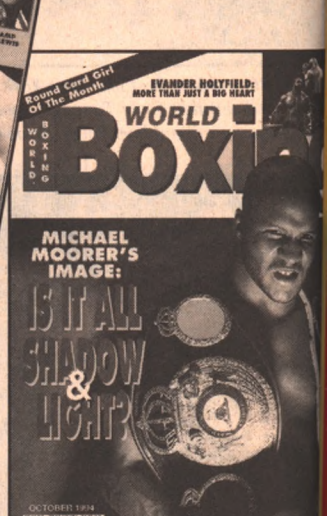

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"UNFINISHED BUSINESS" ...

Taylor was boxing strongly until Chavez struck him down with a vicious left hook in the eighth round. This time, there was little controversy over the stoppage.

Photo by Al Bello/Allsport

... AND THEN SOME!

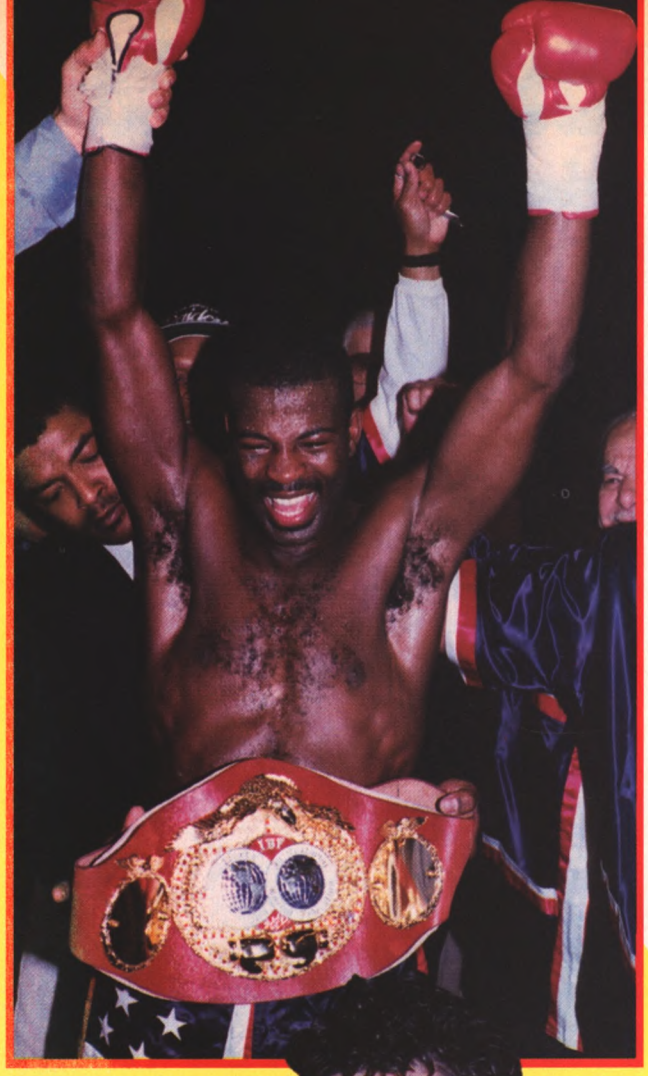
Six Title Fights In Seven Hours!

By Ron Borges

When promoter Don King decided to put together a night of champions in which a record six world title fights would be contested at the MGM Grand Garden in Las Vegas, he claimed, with his usual understatement, that it would be the greatest fight card in history. Even for King this was a rather grandiose proposition.

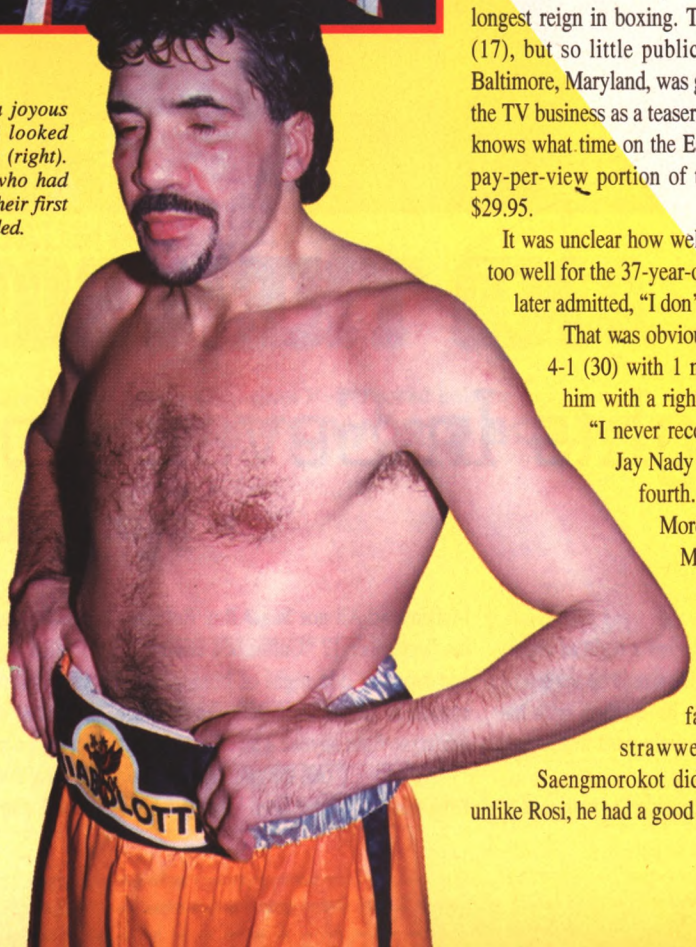
It was also an impossible proposition to fulfill, considering that neither Muhammad Ali nor Sugar Ray Robinson would be fighting. But certainly his September 17 "Unfinished Business" promotion was a spectacular and occasionally odd night of boxing, the kind the sport doesn't see often enough in an era when there are too many champions and too few of them willing to fight anyone who might actually offer up a challenge.

As it turned out, the card dragged on for so long that at times it seemed King might not have been kidding when he titled it Unfinished Business. It



Photos by Jay Lash

Where Pettway was a joyous winner (above), Rosi looked every bit his 37 years (right). The veteran Italian, who had outfought Pettway in their first fight, seemed badly faded.



was 7 hours 8 minutes from the time of the opening bell of the IBF juni middleweight title fight between Gianfranco Rosi and Vincent Pettway the final moments of WBC super lightweight champion Julio Cesar Chave eighth-round stoppage of willing but no longer able Meldrick Taylor. A you might imagine, much went on in between, including 14 knockdown the unseating of three champions, a dancing man with a deer mounted on h head trying to help one fighter by cursing another, and a 90-minute tirade b King about the ills of boxing politics and the Manhattan federal prosecutor office that got him indicted for allegedly defrauding an insurance company.

It was the kind of night not easily forgotten from the moment King sai "In the Land of Oz we put together this show, a terrific card that is going o at the MGM Grand Hotel, where we'll walk down the yellow-brick roa with the Lion, the Scarecrow, Dorothy, and the Tin Man, and give you th opportunity for your dreams to come true."

That was only a portion of an answer he gave to a beleaguered-lookin radio talk show host who was broadcasting live from the press room at th Grand Garden on fight night. King was asked to come by and answer a fe questions to hype the pay-per-view show, but 11 minutes into his fir answer it was clear to the host that his entire show was on its way to becom ing unfinished business. He never got to ask a second question. Of cours he didn't need to.

Before the poor guy could get to a second question, King was off to d another show across the room. One to Boston. Another to Denver. A third t San Diego. "And how about Texas?" King thundered to his PR man, Mik Marley. "We got any pay-per-view outlets in Texas?"

With San Antonio's Jesse James Leija defending the WBC super feat erweight title against Gabe Ruelas, the obvious answer was yes, so off we King to pump up the volume, if that was possible, while the show at ringsi had already begun.

It took just one fight for a champion to be dethroned, and that titli turned out to be Rosi, 154, Perugia, Italy, who had enjoyed the second longest reign in boxing. The Italian also had a glittering record of 57-3- (17), but so little public appeal that his rematch with Pettway, 15 Baltimore, Maryland, was given away free on Showtime in what is known i the TV business as a teaser. The idea was for you to turn on your TV at Lo knows what time on the East Coast, watch a free fight and a promo for th pay-per-view portion of the card, and then call in to plunk down you $29.95.

It was unclear how well that come-on worked, but the fight didn't wor too well for the 37-year-old Rosi, who was stopped in the fourth round an later admitted, "I don't really know what happened."

That was obvious from the moment the 28-year-old Pettway, 3 4-1 (30) with 1 no-contest, nailed him with a left hand, dropped him with a right, and then finished him with a double-left hook. "I never recovered from the first punch," Rosi said. Refere Jay Nady counted out the champion at the 2:59 mark of th fourth. The judges were Roy Francis (England), Dav Moretti (USA), and Nelson Vasquez (Puerto Rico). I March, Rosi and Pettway had fought to a six-roun technical draw during which the Italian got th better of the action.

Rosi had a good night compared to a Th boxer named Yodsing Saengmorokot, wh failed to put up much of a fight against WB strawweight champion Ricardo Lopez. Poo Saengmorokot didn't even make it through the first round. B unlike Rosi, he had a good excuse. Simply put, he should never have been

Saengmorokot had a nightmare flight to Las Vegas, then lasted less than a round (left) against promoter King's diminutive treasure, dominant strawweight Lopez (below).

Photos by Teddy Blackburn

the ring in the first place.

"Between getting here at midnight Thursday and having nothing to eat for two days, I didn't feel prepared," he said through an interpreter with a lack of righteous indignation not normally found in boxing circles these days. "I would have liked to have arrived last week."

That would have seemed reasonable, and judging by what he was put through, he probably would have settled for arriving in time for breakfast. What happened was that the previously unbeaten but unproven challenger, 13-1 (5), left Bangkok two days before the Saturday night card. He was delayed in Los Angeles with visa problems (he was told he needed a work permit, which in retrospect seemed absurd when you consider he didn't even work here for three minutes) and finally arrived in Las Vegas at 11 p.m. Friday night, less than 24 hours before he would fight Lopez. If he was awake yet.

The Nevada State Athletic Commission made Saengmorokot weigh in at midnight. Executive Director Marc Ratner later said, "If he'd had trouble making weight, we wouldn't have allowed him to fight." Considering that Saengmorokot hadn't eaten in two days, if he'd had trouble making weight, it would have really been criminal.

As things turned out, lack of strength, not to mention lack of sleep, was Saengmorokot's problem, though regarding the latter, Lopez, 105, Tacubaya, Mexico, helped him out in a hurry. The champion, 37-0 (27), who was making his 11th defense, sized up his opponent for about a minute, then scored two quick knockdowns, the first with a right hand and the second with a left hook. Referee Kenny Bayless (USA) stopped the ridiculous mismatch at the 1:53 mark. The underworked judges were Marty Sammon (USA), Dr. James Jen-Kin (USA), and Dalby Shirley (USA).

Said Lopez, "He didn't have anything." No kidding.

Saengmorokot didn't hang around for King's post-show tirade. By then he was at the MGM's Grand Buffet table spending his earnings and testing the limits of how much a 105-pound man can eat.

It was difficult to imagine what might happen next—but there wasn't any time to think about it. Next up was a tremendous battle between Leija, 130, San Antonio, Texas, and number-one contender Ruelas, 130, Sylmar, California. It was the second title try for the 24-year-old Ruelas, who had lost a decision to Azumah Nelson, from whom the junior lightweight Leija subsequently took the crown.

Somehow, even before the start of the bout, Leija seemed different from the fighter who had floored and dethroned Nelson. Although unbeaten and only 28, the defending champion looked 10 years older and was soon fighting like it, too. Ruelas, 39-2 (21), floored the champion with a beautiful right uppercut in round two, then added another 10-8 round with a knockdown in the 12th and final stanza. While he controlled the bout with surprising aggressiveness and the judges scored for him unanimously, he suffered a knockdown of his own in the fifth, when Leija struck with an overhand right.

By the time the bout was over, both men were bleeding, but Leija, 28-1-2 (13), had clearly taken the worst of it. Ruelas, meanwhile, was jubilant as he and sibling Rafael, the IBF lightweight champion, joined Terry and Orlin Norris as the only brothers to currently hold world titles.

The referee was Joe Cortez (USA). The judges were the USA's Chuck Giampa (115-109) and Carol Castellano (115-111), and Thailand's Anek Hongtongkam (116-108).

"I've worked all my life for this moment," Ruelas said. "It was easier than I thought. I was much stronger and faster than he was."

Indeed he was, but Leija contended that he had nearly as good an excuse for losing as the hapless Saengmorokot had presented.

"I twisted my ankle in the [first] knockdown and it bothered me the rest of the night," said Leija, who had never before been floored, whether pro or amateur. "I couldn't put the pressure on him as much as I wanted because of the ankle. It might be broken."

As it turned out, it wasn't. All that was broken, at least for the moment, was his spirit.

About 20 minutes after Leija's loss, Luis Ramon "Yori Boy" Campas was feeling the same way. The proud Mexican from Navajoa came into the ring to challenge IBF welterweight champion Felix Trinidad with a record of 56-0 (50) and a Mayan ceremonial headdress complete with blue and green peacock feathers jutting out from the temples. The headdress, which is supposed to bring luck, has been a part of boxing in Campas' portion of Mexico for 60 years, having been handed down from the best fighter in the area to his successor generation after generation. It has taken on an almost supernatural meaning to the 23-year-old Campas, a deeply religious young man who still lives at home with his parents.

Campas insisted all week that the headdress be kept in the hotel's safe until fight night, yet even with all of that he was taking every precaution. It is also the custom around Navajoa for someone to do the Danza del Venado, the Dance of the Deer, to ward off evil spirits before a great venture, so before Campas would enter the ring, an unnamed wizard, bare-chested and unannounced, and with a deer's head and antlers atop his own head, had to precede him. He danced hither and yon, working the corners and ring-center as the capacity crowd of 14,776 scratched its collective head and tried figure out how soon security was going to get him out of the ring.

Fortunately, the wizard finally slowed his dance enough for Campas figure it was safe to climb through the ropes. Judging by the outcome, h ever, the Danza del Venado must have missed a spot or two of the ring.

Campas is one of those Mexican stories that all sound like Chavez kid who began his pro career at 15 by knocking out a 23-year-old oppon Yori Boy fought many a fight in dusty bull rings while asking his priest to bless the deer headdress, which seems like a contradiction of s sort.

Regardless, he braced himself for the 21-year-old Trinidad with Mexicans in attendance viewing him as the heir-apparent to the th Chavez has occupied for so long.

"Yori Boy is the prince who wants to be king," said his promo Guillermo Mayen. It appeared early in the fight that Campas, 146½, m just be crowned this night when he dropped Trinidad, 146½, Cupey Puerto Rico, with the shortest of hooks in the second round, and in swallowed several of the champion's powerful lefts without apparent eff

Trinidad, 24-0 (20), arose on shaky legs, but between rounds his fa and trainer, Felix Sr., quietly told him, "You've been down before. know what to do. Relax and box and wait for your chance."

Trinidad did just that, and when it came he clobbered poor Yori until bringing USA referee Richard Steele's intervention at 2:41 of fourth round. Trinidad pinned Campas along the r and landed a shot the Nevada Commission's doc later said inflicted "the worst broken nose we've seen. He couldn't breathe." That was largely bec Campas' nose had first been broken in the sec round.

Although Campas didn't emerge as the cham he had hoped to become, he didn't hold it against deer friend, nor did he lose any of his reputation tough guy when he said after the loss, "I couldn the things I wanted to do because of my nose. It r affected my movement. I had to breathe through mouth, and I think that slowed me down."

More than five hours into King's card, 32-yea

Photos by Al Bello/Allsport

The favored Leija had his moments against Ruelas (right), but the challenger exhibited surprising power (above) en route to a unanimous decision victory.

Photo by Al Bello/Allsport

Trinidad found Campas easy to hit, and after four rounds of absorbing punishment like this, the previously unbeaten challenger was rescued by the referee. Campas' nose was badly broken.

WBA junior welterweight champion Juan Coggi stepped in with an angry Frankie Randall, the only man to have officially beaten Chavez—and a 32-year-old athlete who feels he's been badly used by his sport.

After winning the WBC super lightweight title from Chavez in January, Randall lost it back in May. In the rematch, Randall appeared to have the Mexican legend in trouble, only to have an inadvertent headbutt—and Chavez' apparent refusal to continue after being cut by it—lead to a narrow and controversial loss by technical decision.

It was bad enough that he lost the title under questionable circumstances, but there was another indignity Randall, 140, Morristown, Tennessee, was still talking about before dropping Coggi, 140, Brandsen, Argentina, in the first, fifth, and sixth rounds—and getting up off the canvas himself in the second. None of that was enough, however, to make Randall forget the first belt. The missing belt.

"I never got my belt back [from Chavez]," groused Randall, 50-3-1 (39), after dethroning Coggi, 67-3-2 (42), who had made the seventh defense of his second reign. "I asked for it back. They sent me a belt. It wasn't the one I had, so I feel I'm being jacked around on that, too. He asked for his belt after I beat him. He cried like a big baby wanting his belt, sending everyone after his belt, so I did return it to him. If he's going to be a gentleman and a man of the sport, he should give me my belt back, too."

Chavez would like to give Randall another belt or two, and after the judges scored for "The Surgeon" unanimously (the USA's Luis Rivera and Duane Ford saw it 116-108 and 115-109, respectively, while Panama's Orlando Sam had it 116-108; the referee was the USA's Mitch Halpern), Randall hoped a rubber match could be arranged sometime before he files for Medicaid.

"I been doing this 23 years," he said. "I'm a master of my craft. It's been a jubilee year for me. Now I want Chavez again. He was a great fighter, but he's had his day in the lights of boxing. He's been a great champion, but he should respect other fighters and quit crying and bickering about it and let just due be done. He's been claiming a voodoo curse was put on him. He's been grasping for excuses since he fought me the first time. He says something was wrong with his body. What was wrong was that Frankie Randall was in front of him. He's got to come down to earth a little bit and realize that somebody has to win and somebody has to lose."

Immediately after Randall's victory, Chavez mixed with the 27-year-old Taylor and proved that at least on this night he was still the man who has to win.

Taylor had waited four long years for this moment, this chance to expunge the memory of the most bitter loss of his career. That was the night in 1990 when Chavez decked him in the final seconds of a bout "The Kid" was winning easily. Although he arose with only two seconds left in the final round, the bout was stopped by referee Richard Steele, preserving Chavez' undefeated streak at the time and resulting in one of the most controversial fight endings in years.

By the time Taylor got his second chance, much had changed for him. He had been knocked out twice more, by Terry Norris and Crisanto Espana; he was now without a world title; he had been dumped by his original promotion-management team of Dan and Lou Duva and Shelly Finkel and had picked up a "nutritionist-spiritualist" named Shiloh Bey, who was reportedly homeless when Taylor first met him.

"My background is martial arts, spiritual healing, isometrics, dynamic tension, and yoga," the dread-locked Bey said before the fight. "I just added them to a Western technique of training. I have a holistic approach to what I

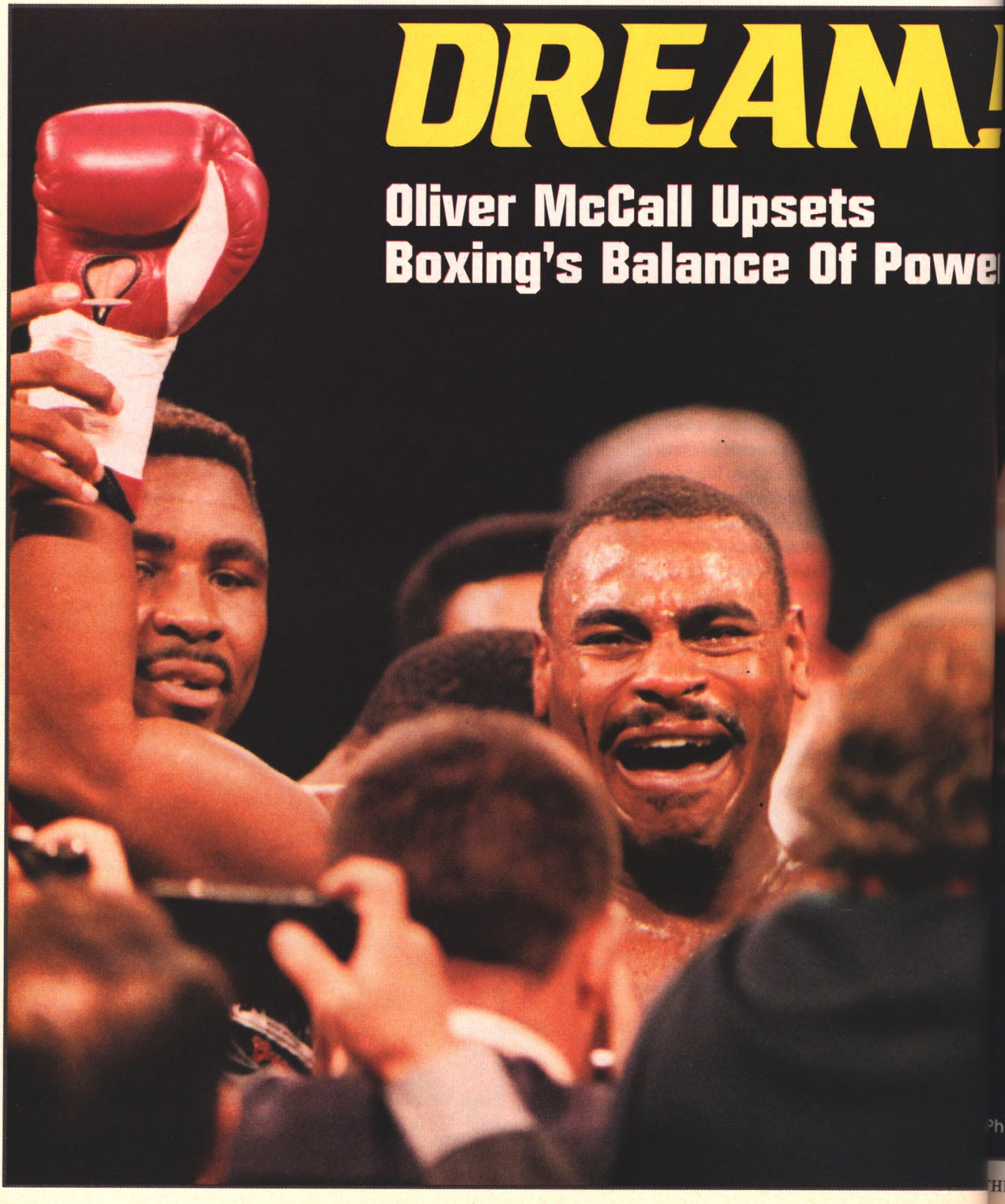
(Continued on page 53)

Photo by Al Bello/Allsport

Randall overpowered Coggi early in the fight, delivered three knockdowns to the champion, then cruised to a points victory. It doesn't seem, however, that a third fight vs. Julio Cesar Chavez is planned for Randall's immediate future.

A PUNCHER'S DREAM!

Oliver McCall Upsets Boxing's Balance Of Powe



By **Brian Doogan**

Well, Mike, it's like this: When you make it out of the joint, you've got a choice. The first guy's got two belts. He can bang a bit, but he's got a suspect jaw. Only problem is he's a southpaw. You may remember him. Name's Michael Moorer.

You mean the light heavyweight?

Yeah, that's the guy. Now the *other* guy, he's a bit of a psycho. You don't want to mention anything about his mother in his presence, or his mother-in-law, for that matter, and he's a bit touchy when quizzed about his previous status in boxing. Actually, you know him well: Oliver McCall.

My sparring partner?

I *said* he's touchy about being referred to that way. Now a few other things to tell you about: Michael Jackson married the King's daughter. No, not *Don* King. No, not King *Hussein. Elvis Presley*. O.J. Simpson got busted by Leslie Nielsen and George Kennedy in a scene for *Naked Gun 44½*, only the Los Angeles police took it for real and charged him with hazardous driving on the highway. Or something like that. And ... Mike? Mike? You all right?

Hey, warden, open some windows around here. Need some air.

Guess the stuff about Michael Jackson and O.J. was a bit tough to swallow all at once, right, Mike?

Hell, no. It's not them. It's what you told me about Moorer and McCall.

***

When Mike Tyson is released from his Indiana prison cell some time next spring and takes his first glance at the heavyweight ratings, he might just begin to squint hard, wonder about the Vitamin A content in his diet over the three previous years, and seek out the nearest optician. What he will see will hardly make imposing reading: the two aforementioned titleholders (assuming the picture remains the same, which, granted, is a precarious assumption); a group of contenders whom he has already ruthlessly dealt with; a sprinkling of up-and-coming prospects who haven't exactly captured anyone's imagination; and a couple of would-be heirs-apparent who have had their butts kicked, their egos busted, and their credentials considerable depleted. Heck, staying out of trouble will present a more serious challenge to Tyson than climbing the current heavyweight hill.

If challengers don't provide him with sufficient motivation, then something else will—money, and an unprecedented amount of it. When Don King maniacally began to dance up and down the ring following Oliver McCall's improbable and dramatic stoppage of Lennox Lewis at London's Wembley Arena on September 24, it was not an impromptu impersonation of Fred Astaire. His brain had just

Photos by Marc Y. Morris

Where Lewis missed, McCall connected. In The Year of the Upset, the mandatory contender, previously dismissed as a career sparring partner, scored a most shocking kayo.

reached overload as telephone numbers preceded by $ signs flashed across his motor system at dangerous rates, the sole way to relieve the pressure being to vigorously shake his gray matter all around his skull. Then King was able to simplify it all into the following few formulas:

McCall + WBC title + Tyson=$100-million
Tyson vs. X=$100-million
Promoter's cut=???!!!

Moments after crashing (below), Lewis indicated that he indeed was okay (right). However, his status in the heavyweight sweepstakes has been drastically altered.

The final number, or at least the final ex
mation point, was enough to justify jumping
joy and shouting, "I love Oliver McCall!" A
all, McCall's victory represented King's retur
a major player in the heavyweight division
the first time since Buster Douglas dethro
Tyson in February 1990. It also guarantees w
Tyson's route will be to an inevitable title
upon release next year.

"This is history," proclaimed an exube
King before proceeding to misquote every

(Continued on page

CALLING FOR McCALL

Call Peter McNeeley, and if he's not home, you'll hear his answering machine begin with a 10-second "Whoooosh" and then, "You have reached the 'Hurricane' Peter McNeeley hot line," followed by a brief update on the boxer's career and a schedule of upcoming bouts. It provides a perfect slice of the young heavyweight's persona; an animal in the ring, he's an instantly likable *Animal House* cut-up outside of it.

McNeeley was a mystery to most boxing fans when it was announced he would be the first challenger for Oliver McCall's WBC crown. However, he's been one of the biggest drawing cards in Massachusetts almost from his first pro bout.

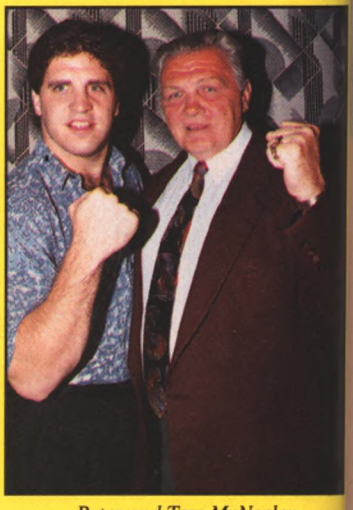
The McNeeley name is a storied one in Boston-area boxing. Grandfather Tom fought on the first program at Boston Garden in 1928, and Peter's father, Tom Jr., met Floyd Patterson for the world title in 1961. McNeeley floored Patterson, but was floored a handful of times (he says 13) before being stopped in the fourth round.

Peter played high school football and had an unspectacular amateur career, compiling a mark of 15-6. His highlight: He was a finalist for the role in *Rocky V* that was eventually won by Tommy Morrison.

Upon turning pro, McNeeley hooked up with Brockton trainer Vinnie Vecchione. He hit 20-0 (17) within two years, defeating the likes of Jesus Rohena (1-10), Phil Prince (1-9), and Jimmy Harrison (6-32). In the last year there's been a conscious effort to upgrade his competition. His only defeat came when he suffered a 25-stitch cut during a fight vs. 6'9" college hoopster Stanley Wright.

Now 30-1 (24), the 26-year-old McNeeley, a graduate of Bridgewater State College, has qualities that spell big box office. Of his shot at McCall, which is tentatively scheduled for the Boston Garden on January 21, he says, "I have a puncher's chance. I weigh 220 pounds and I hit hard. I'm going to come out slammin' right away, and we'll take it from there."

–Jay Miller



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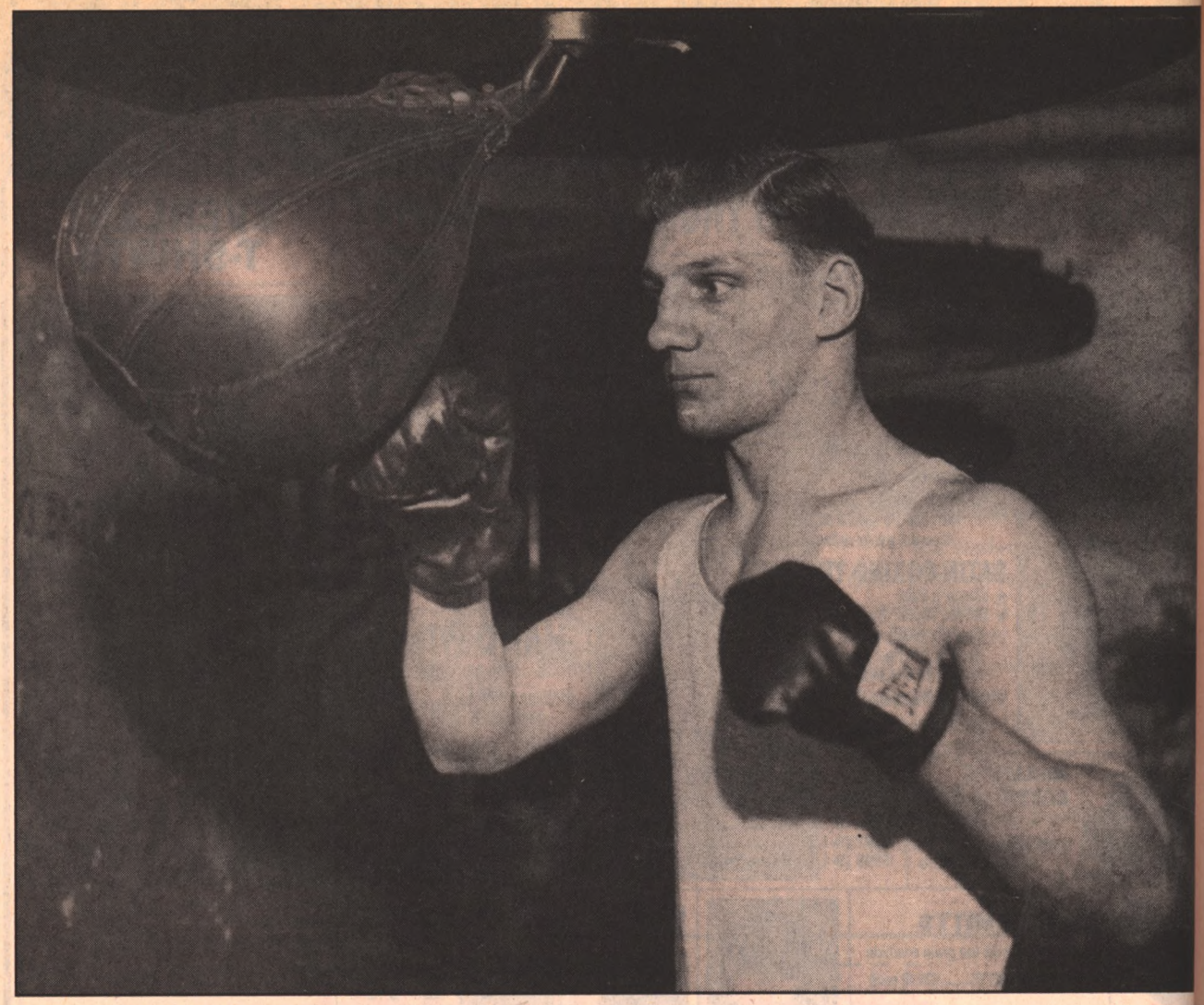


THE MAIER OF MILWAUKEE

The Light Heavyweight Jack Dempsey Ducked

By Pete Ehrmann

It's 10 o'clock in the morning when Dave Maier answers the telep in his Los Angeles apartment. "I just got up," he tells his caller. "W the hell else is there to do but sleep?"

But it's Tuesday, so soon he'll get ready for the highlight of his wee the regular lunchtime meeting at The Spaghetti Factory to share memo and comradeship.

One of the senior members of the club, 85-year-old Dave Maier m misses a meeting. It has been 62 years since he last stepped through ring ropes, but his memories of the days when he was at least the sec best light heavyweight in the world, and on at least two separate nigh 1932 arguably the best, are still fresh.

"Why not?" says Maier in a strong, commanding voice. "I didn't get hit that much."

There aren't too many old fighters around anymore who can personally testify that Jack Dempsey wanted no part of them, that Maxie Rosenbloom actually told his opponents, "Your shoelaces are untied," and who tasted the left jab of Tommy Loughran. When the 21-year-old southpaw earned $500 for beating one Jack Heinemann in his pro debut at the Milwaukee Auditorium, legalized boxing was just 16 years old, and only newspaper decisions were allowed in Maier's home state of Wisconsin. That's still a state record purse for a four-round preliminary bout. Promoter Tom Andrews paid it because, as one local newspaper noted, "Maier's advent into professional boxing will be highly interesting, as he perhaps is the most ballyhooed young man coming out of the amateur ranks."

Maier had won all but one of 25 amateur fights. When the very first Golden Gloves National Tournament was held in Chicago in 1928, he won the 175-pound title by knocking out future pro light heavyweight champion Bob Olin.

Maier went on to the Olympic Trials in Boston that year, and after knocking out three of the four men he beat to reach the finals, he lost to Leon Lucas. The Milwaukeean was chosen as an alternate on the team that went to Amsterdam, and on the boat there was talk of replacing Lucas with the hard-punching Maier in the Games. It didn't happen.

"I hit a guy in the head," Maier laments, "and my hand went kablooey."

Even today nobody likes to fight a southpaw, but 60 years ago, left-handers were viewed both in the ring, and by society in general, as instruments of the devil. Maier recalls being forced to write right-handed in school, as well as his father's warning that failure to comply would mean "Santa Claus won't be good to you." But when he relied too much on his left hand in the ring, one-time middleweight great Gus Christie, his mentor, asked, "What's the matter with your *other* hand?" Christie tied Maier's left arm to his side to make him develop his right. It worked.

"What impressed old-timers," wrote *Milwaukee Journal* boxing reporter Sam Levy after Maier's 1929 pro debut, "was the way he worked with his right hand, something unusual for a southpaw to do."

Nobody was more impressed with Maier than Maier. Before his big showdown with Milwaukee arch-rival Mitts Minikel, Maier interrupted the referee as the instructions were being given. "That's all unnecessary," he said. "I'll hit that guy with one punch and the fight'll be over."

Minikel fell in one.

As far as Maier was concerned, the ring was no place for fooling around. In August 1930, Maier hit a sparring partner named Duane Spaulding in the head. Spaulding went down and died of a cerebral hemorrhage.

Three days later Maier knocked down Chicago's Paul Pantaleo, who'd beaten heavyweights King Levinsky and Ernie Schaaf, nine times in two rounds.

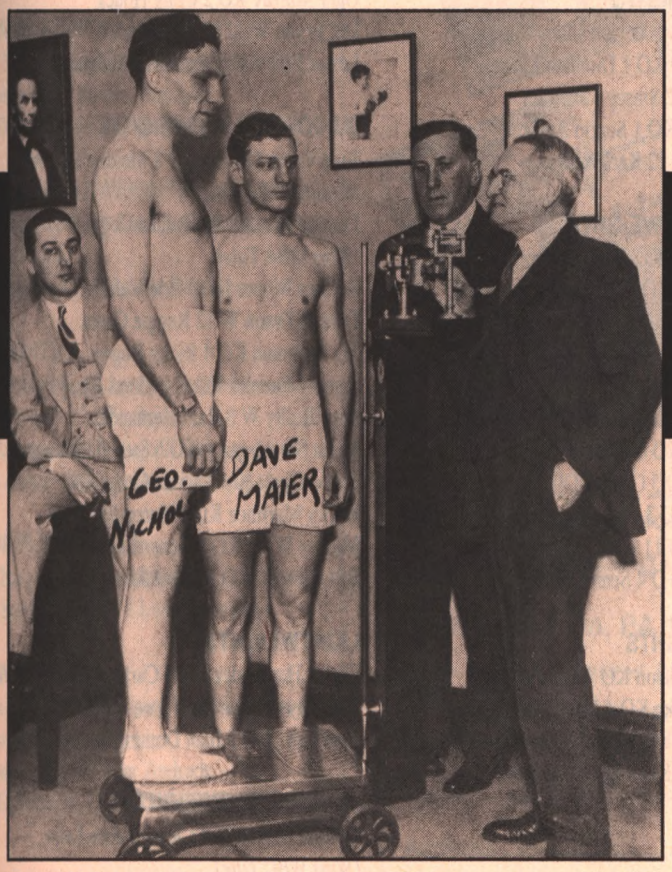
"I didn't like to do that," he says, referring to the death of Spaulding, "but it happened. If I didn't go out and fight, they'd beat me up."

Another time, Maier was hauled before the Wisconsin boxing commission after he knocked another sparring partner stiff wearing 16-ounce pillows.

"They wanted to know what the hell I had in my gloves," he says.

Only his fists, which was enough to make Jack Dempsey back off when

(Continued on page 61)



George Nichols and Maier weigh in for their 1932 bout to crown an NBA light heavyweight champion. Nichols won a split 10-round decision at Chicago Stadium.

Photo by Abe Hochheiser

Maier, shown in a recent photo, is 85 and still feisty. "I think I was robbed of the title, but what you gonna do?" he told THE RING.

Summary

HEAVYWEIGHTS
Oliver McCall KO 2 Lennox Lewis
(Wins WBC Title)
Trevor Berbick W 10 Melvin Foster
Axel Schulz W 10 Bonecrusher Smith
Buster Mathis W 10 Mike Faulkner
Tony Tubbs W 10 William Morris
Phil Jackson KO 4 Art Card
Gary Mason KO 3 Martin Foster
Alex Garcia W 10 Ed Donaldson
Ray Anis KO 10 Craig Payne
David Tua KO 4 Ken Lakusta
Jimmy Thunder KO 2 Ed Donaldson
Jimmy Thunder W 10 Marion Wilson
Mike Weaver KO 2 Bill Corrigan
Boris Powell KO 3 Bobby Crabtree
Tim Tomashek KO 4 Carlos Santistivan
Tom Glesby W 12 Mauricio Villegas
David Bey KO 8 Dave Jaco

CRUISERWEIGHTS
Sergei Kobozev KO 10 Andrew Maynard
Carl Thompson KO 1 Dionisio Lazario
Jade Scott KO 2 Stacey McSwain
Sean McClain KO 1 Sergio Aguirre
Mike Sedillo D 12 Karl Willis

LIGHT HEAVYWEIGHTS
Mauro Galvano KO 7 Youri Krestov
Ole Klemetsen KO 2 Rick Gannon
Anthony Hembrick KO 3 Tim St. Clair
Alex Ramos Tech. Dec. 5 Anthony Montana

SUPER MIDDLEWEIGHTS
Antoine Byrd KO 6 Eduardo Ayala
Nicky Piper KO 5 Charles Oliver
Merqui Sosa KO 3 Phil Morefield
Billy Lewis KO 11 Andre Sherrod
Mickey Rourke D 4 Sean Gibbons

MIDDLEWEIGHTS
John David Jackson KO 7 Danny Garcia
Joseph Kiwanuka KO 4 Lionel Ortiz
Rodney Toney KO 3 Eric Valdez
Lorenzo Smith KO 8 Jason Papillion

JUNIOR MIDDLEWEIGHTS
Vincent Pettway KO 4 Gianfranco Rosi
(Wins IBF Title)
Keith Holmes W 12 Andrew Council
Hector Camacho W 10 Pat Lawlor
Raul Marquez KO 6 Darryl Cherry
Robert McCracken W 12 Steve Foster

WELTERWEIGHTS
Pernell Whitaker W 12 Buddy McGirt
(Retains WBC Title)
Ike Quartey KO 5 Alberto Cortes
(Retains WBA Title)
Felix Trinidad KO 4 Yori Boy Campas
(Retains IBF Title)
Derrell Coley D 12 Rocky Balboa
Oba Carr KO 2 Antonio Ojede
Ray Lovato KO 2 Roger Mayweather
Gert Bo Jacobsen KO 1 George Samms
Livingstone Bramble W 10 Bernard Matthews
Gary Murray KO 2 Craig Houck
Del Bryan W 12 Lindon Scarlett
Lester Ellis KO 3 Armando Andales

JUNIOR WELTERWEIGHTS
Julio Cesar Chavez KO 8 Meldrick Taylor
(Retains WBC Title)
Frankie Randall W 12 Juan Coggi
(Wins WBA Title)
Rodney Moore KO 3 Eric Valdez
Darryll Tyson W 12 Reggie Green
Jan Bergman KO 4 Ricky Rogers
Sammy Fuentes KO 4 Andreas Panayi
Pepe Reilly W 8 Raul Hernandez
Soren Sondergaard KO 6 Steve Larrimore
David Ojeda KO 7 Jaime Ocegueda
Rocky Martinez KO 4 Aaron Shockley
Mickey Ward KO 3 Genaro Andujar
Bill Costello KO 6 Bob Elkins

LIGHTWEIGHTS
Carlos Hernandez KO 3 Carlos Marquez
Jeff Mayweather KO 4 Jose Torres
Jose Caba KO 2 Juan Dominguez

JUNIOR LIGHTWEIGHTS
Gabriel Ruelas W 12 Jesse James Leija
(Wins WBC Title)

Reggie Tuur W 12 Eugene Speed
Freddie Liberatore W 10 Calvin Grove
Yuji Watanabe KO 2 Sul Boy Ala-an
Ditau Molefyane KO 6 Noe Hernandez
Javier Leon W 10 Jesus Hernandez

FEATHERWEIGHTS
Kevin Kelley KO 2 Jose Vida Ramos
(Retains WBC Title)
Steve Robinson KO 9 Duke McKenzie
Ever Beleno KO 1 Guillermo Salcedo
David Santos KO 4 Adolpho Castillo
Freddy Cruz W 8 Saidi Laval
Madhi Labdouni W 12 Stefano Zoff
Francisco Arreola W 12 Jerome Coffee

JUNIOR FEATHERWEIGHTS
Frank Toledo KO 8 Ishmael Sanders
Daniel Jimenez KO 1 Harold Geier
Johnny Bredahl W 8 Adey Benton

BANTAMWEIGHTS
Wayne McCullough KO 3 Andres Cazares
Tim Austin KO 1 Ramon Gonzalez
Mario Diaz W 12 Roland Gomez

JUNIOR BANTAMWEIGHTS
Hyung Chul Lee KO 9 Katsuya Onizuka
(Wins WBA Title)
Seung Koo Lee KO 3 Adonis Lanzadera

FLYWEIGHTS
Arthur Johnson W 10 Antonio Ruiz Villasana
Danny Nunez W 12 Kiki Rojas
Oscar Arciniega KO 8 Hugo Torres
Francis Ampofo KO 3 James Drummond

JUNIOR FLYWEIGHTS
Jesus Chong KO 7 Oscar Calzada
Young Soon Chang W 12 Ledion Ceniza

STRAWWEIGHTS
Ricardo Lopez KO 1 Yodsing Saengmorokot
(Retains WBC Title)
Alex Sanchez KO 4 Oscar Andrade
Roger Espanola W 10 Rodolfo Robles

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FIGHTER *of the* MONTH

What a difference a punch makes. Three days after taking the WBC heavyweight title by clocking Lennox Lewis in London, Oliver McCall, previously known as the division's best sparring partner, flew to New York City on the Concord, had brunch at one restaurant and lunch at another, met the press, posed next to a statue of George M. Cohan, and attended a cocktail party at his hotel. He also answered about 1,000 questions, shot a promotional video for Showtime, and flexed his muscles for THE RING's photographer. He never slowed up, never stopped laughing and bellowing and pontificating.

This is *not* going to be a quiet reign.

What McCall did to 5-1 favorite Lewis was as surprising as anything that's happened this year. And remember, 1994 has already been labeled The Year of the Upset. Lost is a long-awaited showdown between Lewis and Riddick Bowe, which had been scheduled for next March. Gained is a Don King-promoted champion Mike Tyson can aim for.

In case you haven't already noticed, King isn't going to be quiet, either.

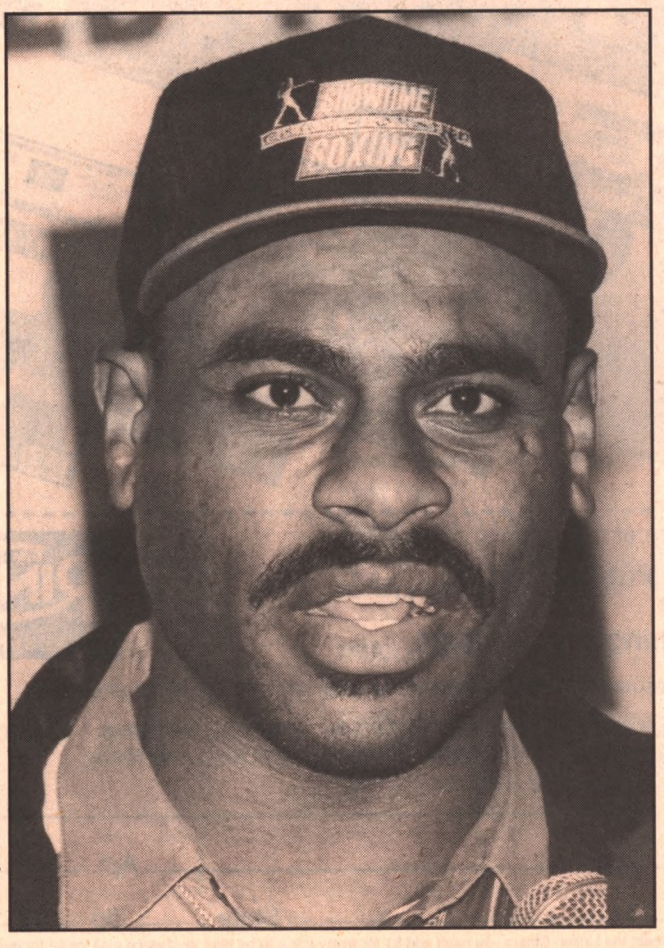
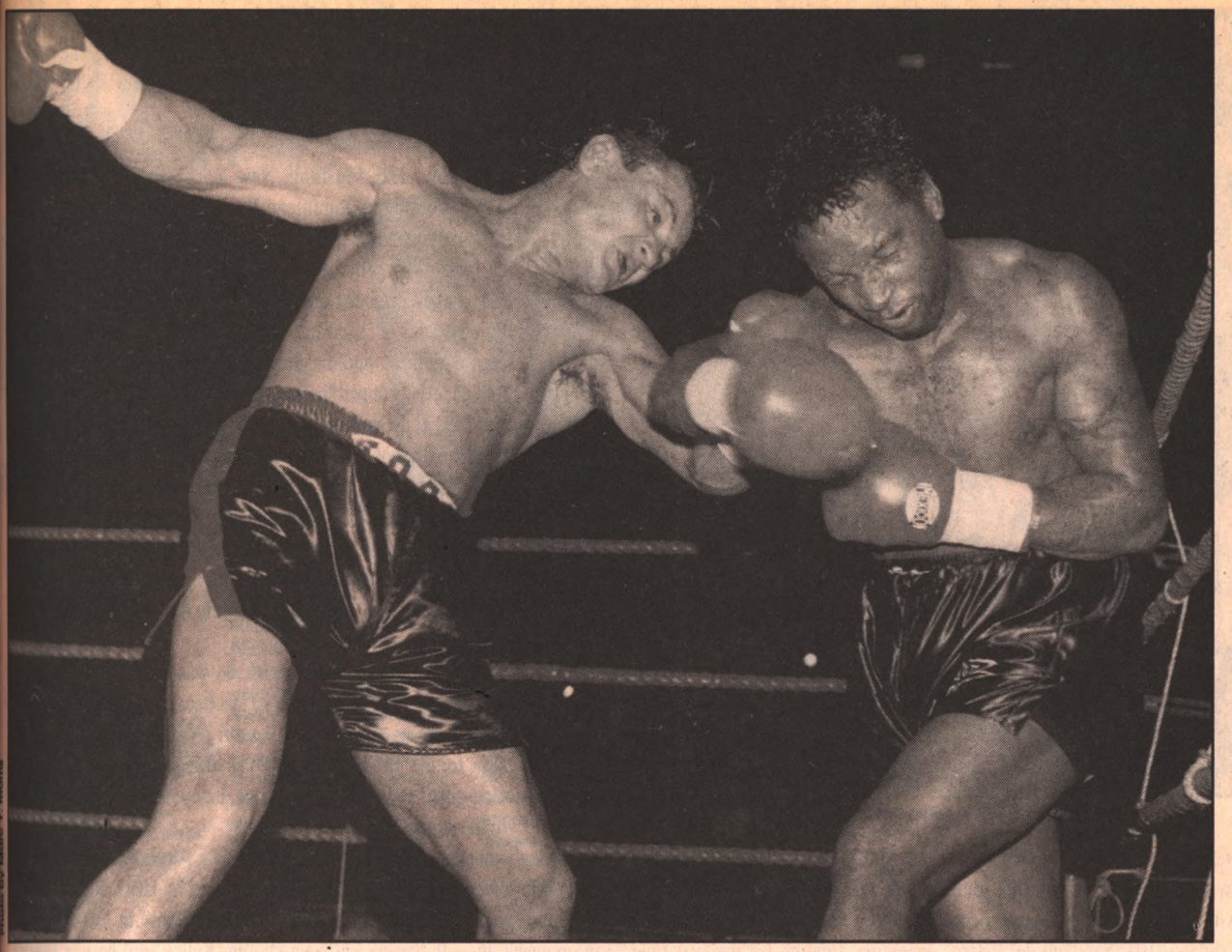


Photo by Jason Ross Lavin

• • • •

Oliver McCall



Against Gimenez, Benn stressed defense

Nigel Benn W 12 Juan Carlos Gimenez

Birmingham, England: Amid disgraceful scenes of mob violence precipitated by drunk soccer fans, Benn comfortably and unanimously decisioned Gimenez to retain the WBC super middleweight title at the National Exhibition Centre. It was his sixth defense.

The disturbance involved supporters of Birmingham City and Manchester United, some of whom apparently gate-crashed the arena prior to a British title fight between Birmingham and Manchester boxers that was totally unrelated to Benn-Gimenez. However, during round four of the title fight, the situation became dangerous, as security personnel appeared to lose control. As a result, there was consideration of postponing the action. Although obviously distracted, Benn and Gimenez continued fighting, and order was eventually restored.

For the third bout in succession, Benn, 167¼, London, England, boxed proficiently. He has apparently discarded his devil-may-care approach for good. Despite occasionally being caught, he controlled matters with his sound boxing skills and excellent jab. Gimenez, 167½, Asuncion, Paraguay, displayed a stout chin—he's never been down—and firm resolve, but lacked the necessary offensive qualities to take the fight.

The 33-year-old Gimenez was a substitute for former two-division champion Darrin Van Horn, who had injured his back. This was the South American's second try at a world title; in 1992, he lost on points to then-WBC 168-pound champion Mauro Galvano.

The champion began well, firing a steady stream of jabs, as well as a succession of pinpoint rights. When discretion was called for, Benn, 39-2-1 (33), cleverly evaded much of the firepower headed his way by bobbing and weaving along the ropes or tucking up tight in ring-center. Both fighters' concentration wavered over the middle rounds as rioting took place around them, and Benn was nailed by a cross-hook combination in the sixth and another right in the seventh.

Benn, 30, landed a crackling right at the beginning of round eight, but Gimenez, 43-7-3 (29), absorbed the punch well. The champion's workrate lowered in the later rounds, but he was never in any distress.

Hank Adriaanse (Holland) scored 117-112, Lazaro Carrasco (Spain) 119-115, and Kurt Stroer (Germany) 118-112. THE RING had Benn in front by 117-113.

The referee was Luis Carlos Guzman (Argentina).

Afterward, Benn said his opponent of choice would be former champion Michael Nunn.

Promoters: Don King & Frank Warren

(9-10-94)

Brian Doogan

Chiquita Gonzalez KO 7 Juan Domingo Cordoba

Stateline, Nevada: In his first defense since his rematch victory over Michael Carbajal, WBC-IBF junior flyweight champion Gonzalez dominated little-known but game challenger Cordoba and registered a stoppage victory after seven rounds at Caesars Tahoe.

Beginning his third reign as WBC champion, Gonzalez, 108, Ciudad

Photo by Tom Hogan

After Gonzalez-Cordoba, there was little doubt about who had won

Neza, Mexico, started slowly, picking his spots in the opening round. The switch-hitter probed with his southpaw jab and occasionally went inside with lefts to the body. Gonzalez concentrated on the body in the second, but Cordoba, 107, Santiago del Estero, Argentina, fighting for the first time outside his homeland, surprised the champion with several rights to the head and had Chiquita backing off.

Cordoba, 16-2-1 (11), opened the third with another good right to the face, but Gonzalez, 40-2 (28), replied with a barrage of rights to both the head and body, which hurt the Argentine. Cordoba stood his ground, but a right to the jaw in the final seconds staggered him. The fourth saw Gonzalez continue his attack, but Cordoba fought back, still occasionally scoring with rights. Late in the round, Gonzalez hurt Cordoba with a right uppercut to the chin.

In the fifth, it looked as though Gonzalez, who scored at one point with five consecutive short hooks to the jaw, might finish off his foe. Cordoba dug deep down, however, and surprised Gonzalez with several solid rights to the chin. It would prove to be his last moment. After hurting his man with a left to the jaw in the sixth, Gonzalez battered Cordoba from ringpost to ringpost in the seventh. Cordoba somehow refused to fall, but by the end of the round there was blood streaming from a cut over his right eye, and the left side of his face was a swollen, black-and-blue mass. Referee Mills Lane (USA) wisely called a halt on the advice of the ringside physician.

After seven rounds, Gonzalez was comfortably ahead on all three cards. The judges were Doug Tucker, Tom McDonough, and Dick Young, all from the USA.

Gonzalez praised Cordoba, calling him a strong fighter who could take a punch. Next for Chiquita will be a rubber match vs. Carbajal, and then, he says, a jump to flyweight.

Promoter: Forum Boxing

(9-10-94)

Steve Nicolaisen

Kevin Kelley KO 2 Jose Vida Ramos

Atlantic City, New Jersey: Defending the WBC featherweight title for the second time, southpaw Kelley blitzed hard-punching challenger Ramos in two rounds at Bally's Park Place.

Kelley, 126, Flushing, New York, floored Ramos, 125, Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic, midway through the second with a three-punch combination. Ramos arose in a fog at the count of five, but was too disoriented to clinch. Kelley, 40-1 (28), turned orthodox and landed a short left hook that dropped Ramos, 24-2 (17), on his back. The challenger's head hit the canvas with an audible thud, and referee Tony Perez (USA) immediately stopped the bout at the 1:58 mark. The fast finish shocked the Dominican's fans, who packed the ballroom believing Ramos' power would overwhelm Kelley.

After a close first round during which Kelley kept his distance, Ramos, 27, charged out for the second. It was a mistake. A right hook left him on his heels, and Kelley the mover turned into Kelley the stalker. He quickly put together two more hooks and a straight left that produced the first knockdown.

"Once I got him to back up, he was done," Kelley said. "I was surprised he came at me so fast because I thought he would respect me as a champion. I could see right away he was too slow for me. He didn't really do anything wrong, but I had more God-given ability. He came at me, he opened up, and I beat him to the punch."

Kelley's mandatory defense against Mexico's Alejandro Gonzalez will take place sometime in January. It will be televised by HBO. Promoter Bob Goodman would like Kelley to make an optional defense in November, but an opponent and site haven't yet been chosen. Kelley said he was looking forward to fighting WBC junior featherweight champion Hector Acero Sanchez, who dethroned Tracy Patterson, "The Flushing Flash's" promotional stablemate, in August.

"I want revenge," the 27-year-old Kelley said. "Me, Tracy, and [IBF featherweight champion] Tom Johnson will be like hit men for Bobby Goodman. We'll fight and beat any fighter from an opposing promoter. I'll fight any featherweight in the world except for Tracy and Tom."

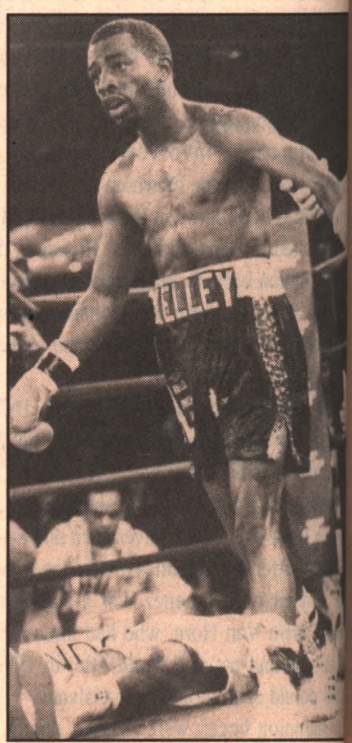
Kelley earned $105,000 and Ramos $20,000.

The judges were Omar Mintun (Mexico), Francisco Manzano (Puerto Rico), and John Stewart (USA).

Promoter: Garden State Boxing

(9-24-94)

Eric Bottjer ■



Kelley left Ramos at his feet

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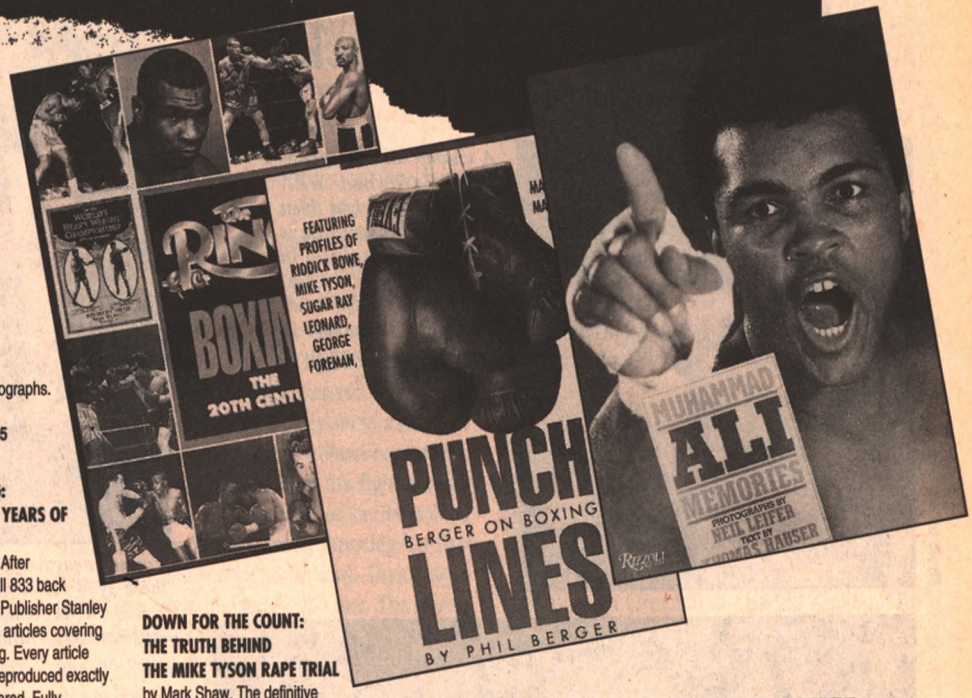

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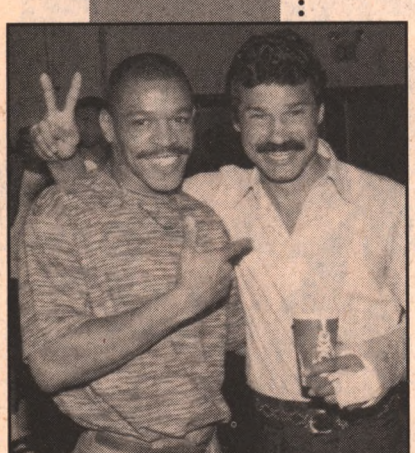


Photo by Jay Lash

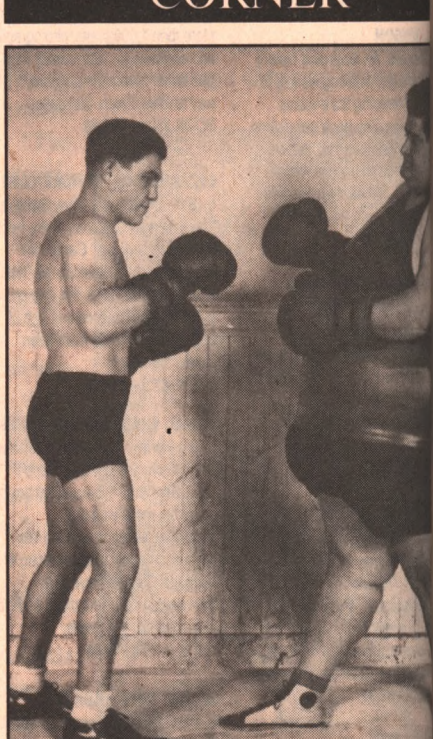
A champ and a legend: Newly crowned WBA junior welterweight titlist Frankie Randall hangs with Alexis Arguello in Las Vegas. Note the cast on Arguello's left hand; he suffered a fracture in his comeback win over Jorge Palomares.

Former heavyweight champ Evander Holyfield helps hono three 1994 recipients of Coca-Cola USA Evander Holyfield S larships at a ceremony in Atlanta. The college-bound women: (left) Rasheedah Muhammad, Eden Parks, and Tamika Green.

Photo by Jay Lash

Let's hope Don King doesn't start promoting his own mariachi band. After two successful shows in September, King, camera-shy as ever, was all smiles.

NOSTALGIA CORNER



They don't make sparring partners like they us World champion Lou Brouillard works out with M "Leviathan" Levy in October 1933. Can you which one is the middleweight?

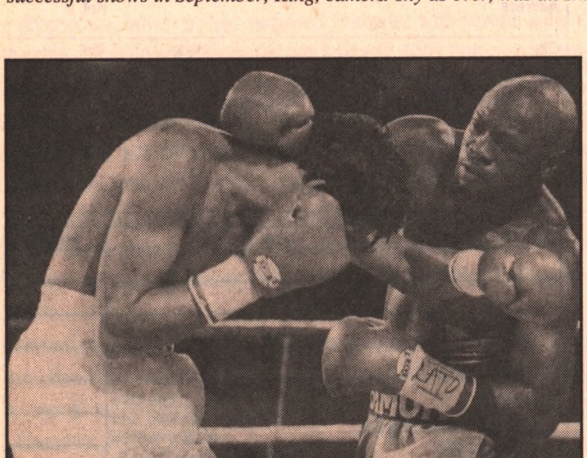


Photo by Chris Farina

Headed for another try at the junior middleweight title is Simon Brown, who recently outpointed Nestor Maciel in Las Vegas. Brown will challenge newly crowned IBF champion Vincent Pettway early next year.

Las Vegas Supercard

(Continued from page 39)

do. Just by feeding Meldrick whole vegetables and whole grains, fruits, and special little sacred foods that I have, that will bring him back to a great champion."

Maybe next time Taylor will again change his diet, because whatever Bey was feeding him—and many in boxing suspected it was a line—didn't change the outcome from his first meeting with Chavez. Except this time it took him four fewer rounds to lose.

A 2-1 underdog, Taylor, 140, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, entered the ring with a new trainer, but a familiar face. Willie Rush, who had begun working with the fighter when Taylor was an eight-year-old boy with a dream off the streets, was back in his corner. It had been 10 years, or since Taylor won a 1984 Olympic gold medal.

For a time, it seemed Rush and Bey had performed magic in the Land of Oz. It was vintage Taylor, boxing one minute, punching the next, keeping Chavez, 140, Culiacan, Mexico, at bay and confused. But with the crowd roaring for Chavez, Taylor eventually let the moment swamp his mind.

After he had been knocked out at 1:41 of the eighth round, Taylor lay beaten in his quiet locker room, his 21-month-old son Meldrick Jr. tapping next to him. As Taylor surveyed his surroundings, perhaps realizing for the first time that his time was up as a top contender, he shook his head slowly at how close he had come to beating his menacing rival.

He thought of the fourth round, when he hurt Chavez, 91-1-1 (78), with a combination so sweet it caused the challenger, who felt like a champion, to raise both arms above his head and break into a Philly street version of the Ali shuffle. Then there was the fifth round, when Taylor, 32-4-1 (18), landed a three-punch combination—left, right, left, rat-a-tat-tat—snapping Chavez' head back and forth like it was on a string.

But then it all began to slip away after he was angered by a second penalty for a sixth-round low blow that nobody saw but Chavez and referee Mills Lane (USA). Now it was a fight, not a boxing match, and that was something Taylor could not win.

"We fought beautiful for so many rounds," Rush lamented. "Then we went off the program a little bit. Meldrick figured he had him and he started to show off a little, and as soon as he got hurt, he went back to the old style, standing still and slapping instead of hitting with power shots."

That process of disintegration began in the fifth, when Chavez first hurt him, and it worsened in the seventh. Now blood was dripping from inside Taylor's mouth, a chilling reminder of the hell he had gone through in the first fight with Chavez, when he had swallowed two quarts of his own blood from a similar cut.

Rising off his stool for round eight, Taylor nodded at Chavez as they walked out to meet each other, almost acknowledging this was the end, but that it would not be easy for the executioner to sing his song.

Soon Chavez had landed a perfect short counter left over a Taylor right, and in his mind, at least, Taylor was walking down the streets of Philadelphia. He took four mincing steps backward and went down flat on the seat of his satin shorts, the force of the knockdown rolling him up on his back, with his legs above his head like a gymnast doing a floor exercise.

Lane was watching closely now, and when Taylor took four more shots without responding, the referee leaped in and both the fight and the night were over. As Chavez stood on the second strand of ropes in one corner, thrusting his fists into the sky and waving to his fans, Taylor stood locked in a survival dance with Lane. The referee had both hands behind Taylor's neck and his right foot on top of Taylor's left boot, almost as if to steady him from falling over. With that it ended.

The judges were Malcolm Bulner (Australia), Dave Brown (Canada), and Daniel Van Del Weile (Belgium).

As a postscript, there was King's endless tirade and the fighters' soft-spoken explanations of what had happened on one glorious night of boxing.

"I had a game plan," Taylor said as he sat dejected in his locker room, remembering that only several days before he had predicted an eighth-round knockout, which had turned out to be only half-right. "If I'd stuck to it I would have won."

Across the hall Chavez was chortling after a fight for the first time in a long time. On this night he was the king again, although the scratches and marks on his face seemed to be signs that his throne was no longer secure. Even if he was not yet heeding the warning.

"To all those who thought I was too old," said the 32-year-old Chavez, "certainly old men are old, but they keep going, don't they?"

By this time King had already spoken his mind three times over, at one point threatening to retire from promoting because he no longer could take "the accusations and innuendos" of his rivals.

When Chavez heard this he perked up from his normal press conference demeanor, which is similar to a man halfway to an afternoon nap. He listened to the translation from Gladys Rose and then announced, "If Don King is retiring, I will go with him."

No danger of that, the proof coming later in the evening, when King declared a Randall-Pernell Whitaker fight for the latter's WBC welterweight title "done" as a precursor to a rematch for the winner with Chavez. If it was indeed a made fight, that came as news to Whitaker's promoter, Dan Duva, who snapped on his way to McCarron Airport in Las Vegas late that night, "Why should Whitaker have to be a traffic cop for Chavez? The winner of the Whitaker-Buddy McGirt fight will kick the crap out of Chavez. And so would the loser."

Perhaps, but that was for another night. On this evening, on which three world champions were dethroned, no one in boxing lost. "Unfinished Business" was finally finished, and it was a winner. ■

Ron Borges is a boxing writer and columnist for the Boston Globe.

McCall-Lewis

(Continued from page 42)

from Winston Churchill to Rudyard Kipling. "To all those who prognosticated and predicted a Lennox Lewis victory, I present the new heavyweight champion of the world, Oliver McCall, who defied the odds and upset the critics. He is a good old Yankee Doodle Dandy, and he's my Yankee Doodle Joy."

All McCall had been renowned for prior to shocking Lewis was his capacity as a hired hand. Foremost among Tyson's sparring partners, he would be summoned to the ring when the others had beat a fast exit back to the showers. He would be relied upon to provide adequate resistance and good, solid sparring, and he once knocked "Iron Mike" to the floor. Involved in the preparation for nine of Tyson's 11 world title fights, McCall clearly benefited from services rendered.

"Mike Tyson gave me the spirit and the courage to win the heavyweight championship of the world," he declared shortly after stunning Lewis.

Courage was hardly an attribute lacking much in him anyway, for it is a brave man who survives Chicago's inner-city streets where, as McCall says, the philosophy of many kids attempting to display their manhood is that "it's better to be tried by 12 than carried by six."

"You've got to fight through every day from the moment you get out of bed," explained McCall. "That's how it is in the ghetto."

Like many before him, McCall's salvation from such urban deprivation was boxing.

"One day I got involved in a fight on a baseball pitch, and this guy said to me, 'Man, you're pretty good. You should get yourself into the Golden Gloves.' Do you know what? I did, and I won, all on first-round kayos, and I never

trained once."

On turning pro, McCall earned a reputation for his sparring prowess and earned up to $2,000 a week. Ambition, however, spurred him further, and besides, he had six children to support and raise. So when King offered to sign him following a points defeat to Tony Tucker in June 1992, McCall eagerly accepted, and a series of stoppage victories, most notably a single-punch destruction of Italian contender Francesco Damiani, propelled him into the mandatory contender position.

Although regarded as dangerous, McCall did not induce undue concern in the camp of Lewis. Unbeaten, undaunted, and in his prime, Lewis had higher aspirations than dismantling a mere sparring partner, such as finally facing Riddick Bowe next March, unifying the title against Moorer, and waiting for the reemergence of you-know-who. At a press conference, extrovert trainer Pepe Correa even tossed a garter at McCall, disdainfully predicting. "That's the only belt you're gonna win."

Any British fight fan who cared dutifully agreed, but although Lewis may be the first Brit to make partial claim to the world heavyweight title this century (and oh, how they've tried), his general appeal draws a zilch. People here are as captivated by Lewis as Americans are by soccer. (Ain't that the round-ball game played with your feet?) Sure he has his supporters, but they would be eclipsed by Benn's, Eubank's, and even Bruno's.

Barely 7,000 fans showed up despite the fact that the only coverage of McCall-Lewis scheduled on mainstream British TV (the bout was aired live on a cable channel available in only 800,000 homes out of a population of 65-million) was a brief highlights show the following mid-week, and the fight in full a week later. As things turned out, both transmissions lasted approximately the same amount of time.

McCall, 231¼, Chicago, Illinois, was focused as he forced the pace during the first round. With what would be termed a think-tank in his corner (former champions Greg Page and Tucker, along with Kronk's Emanuel Steward), he demonstrated a distinct willingness to execute the strategy that had been so faultlessly devised.

"I watched videos of Lewis' fights," disclosed McCall, "and I saw mistakes. Every time he throws a punch, he shows that he'll throw it. I knew I had to get close, draw his right, and counter, and that's what we worked on."

A foreboding of what was to come occurred midway through the first, when McCall sli Lewis right and almost connected with a right counter. Lewis, 238, London, En smothered the punch and smiled, but McC encouraged.

"I could see his reactions were slow, was telling myself to slow down," said Mc

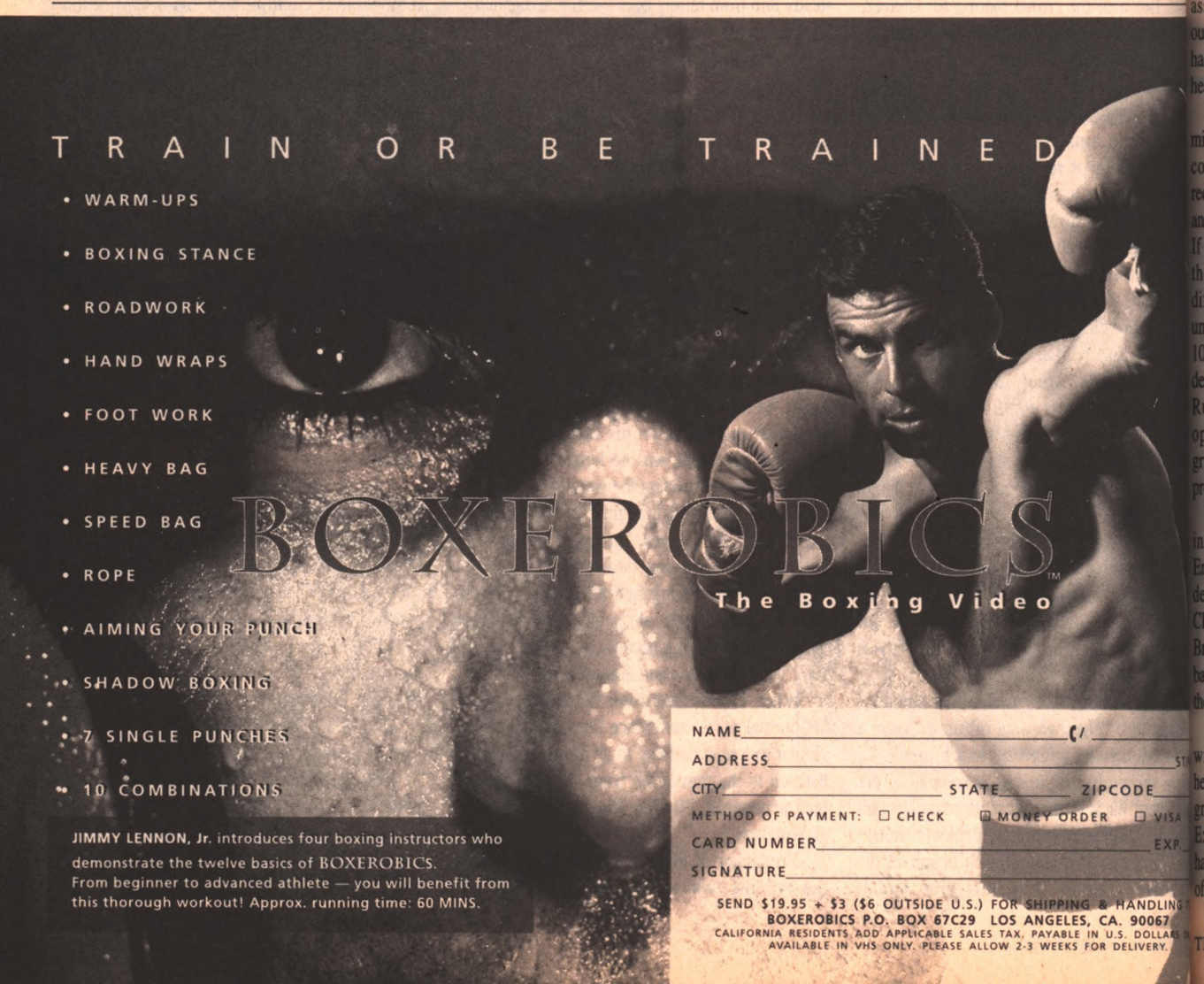
Lewis did get pegged by a left upperc took the round due to a persistently accura that seemed the perfect countermeasure t challenger's pressure tactics. In the secon elected to raise the pace, and he thr combination that backed McCall, 25-5 (18) the ropes.

"I always knew he was gonna load up right hand, and then I would have him," M said later. "He was set up for my counter rig

Twenty seconds into round two, M implemented his plan. Lewis, 25-1 (21), fell with a left, and as he threw a lunging right, Atomic Bull" dropped an atomic bomb, a set up by a left hook, on Lewis' jaw.

"I slipped inside and landed with my ri punch and, bang, that was it, baby," he said.

Lewis fell onto his back, instinctively h toward his corner, and rose at the count of only to stumble backward into a neutral corn



quivering legs. Referee Jose Guadalupe Garcia (Mexico), clenching Lewis in his arms, completed the mandatory eight-count, then halted the bout at the 31-second mark of the round.

"I didn't hear [the referee] counting, but I heard 'six,'" said Lewis. "I was adjusting my feet. The referee said, 'You okay?' and I nodded. I was clear to fight on. I was robbed."

Co-promoter Dan Duva echoed his sentiment: "This is no four-round fighter from Liverpool. This is the heavyweight champion of the world ... Fighters fight hurt all the time. That's what makes world champions."

Lewis' manager, Frank Maloney, insisted, "Lennox Lewis was caught with a shot, but he should have been given a chance. That was a fight for the heavyweight championship of the world. Lennox should have been given the benefit of the doubt."

Such benefits have a propensity to result in tragedy, and there can be no doubt that Garcia was acting in Lewis' best interest by extricating him from battle when he did. Just as Garcia waved it off, Lewis' legs sagged again, an indication that he would have had difficulty withstanding a further onslaught.

"I'm absolutely sure about what I did," asserted Garcia. "Lennox Lewis was knocked out. To allow more punches to Lewis could have had fatal consequences. My duty is to protect the health of the boxer."

He also protected Lewis from the beating that might have been. In spite of how devastating and complete a "KO by 2" entry appears on his record, Lewis was spared a prolonged battering, and that should reduce the psychological impact. If he had been up and down like a yo-yo and thoroughly demolished, it would have been difficult to imagine him coming back. McCall unquestionably incapacitated him for the required 10 seconds, but he did not reproduce the same destruction job that, say, Lewis inflicted on Razor Ruddock. Of course, he wasn't given the opportunity, either, but Lewis' perceived grievance that the referee cheated him may yet prove a saving grace.

Ironically, it could also enhance his popularity in Britain, for there is seemingly nothing the English love more than a loser. Only they could describe Dunkirk as a victory, boast about the Charge of the Light Brigade, and regard Frank Bruno as some sort of cultural symbol. Lewis' fan base may increase, but he is unlikely ever to inspire the '90s equivalent of Beatlemania.

He is equally unlikely to secure a rematch with McCall. Having spent four years in the heavyweight wilderness, King will be reluctant to grant anyone outside his stable a title shot. Expect McCall to engage in a series of non-hazardous, marking-time affairs against the likes of Peter McNeeley (see sidebar) in anticipation of a Tyson clash next year.

With Lewis-Bowe having been shafted, McCall-Moorer not even a proposition, and the heavyweight division virtually in limbo for the next eight months, there is more than just McCall waiting for the comebacking former king. ■

Brian Doogan is* THE RING'S *correspondent in Europe.

New Faces

(Continued from page 16)

"I'm well-aware of Aaron Pryor's great talents," said Austin. "Ezzard Charles died in 1975, when I was just four years old, but I had lots of uncles and cousins who were fight fans telling me what a great all-around fighter he was, and about his wars with Rocky Marciano. If I can do it, I'd like to legally take his name to revive Cincinnati's boxing history. It would be a great honor if I could fight as Ezzard Charles II."

Austin, a southpaw, is trained by John Falcone, 44, who met the youngster in 1991, when the boxer-puncher was acquiring all sorts of national honors on the road to Barcelona. Falcone and Austin seem ideally matched, largely because they share a similar philosophy about boxing.

"Timmy has a great attitude, and he picks things up quick when something new is added to his game plan," said Falcone. "One of the many things you have to like is he's very cool under pressure. He has unfailing patience, and he punches with both hands with authority.

"I could see very early that Austin dedicated to his purpose in and out of the ring. Don King knew all about Tim in Barcelona. When he signed Tim, his son, Carl King, was named as manager. Right now nobody takes anything out of his purses—not a dime."

How much is an Olympic bronze medal worth? For his most recent effort, Austin earned only $1,750 at the Silver Nugget Casino in North Las Vegas. In a scheduled eight-rounder, he blew out Ramon Gonzalez, a Texas bantamweight with a reported record of 14-3. If their was a downside to the victory, it was that Austin didn't get the work he might have liked. Quickly establishing his superior equipment by landing sharp combinations to the head and body, Austin immediately backed Gonzalez up. His double-jab was most effective in driving Gonzalez across the ring. Then he connected with a few right hands and an uppercut that left the Texan in a heap. Referee Joe Cortez took one look and wisely called a halt at 2:02 of the opening round.

"I didn't expect this one to be that easy, but

(Continued on page 56)

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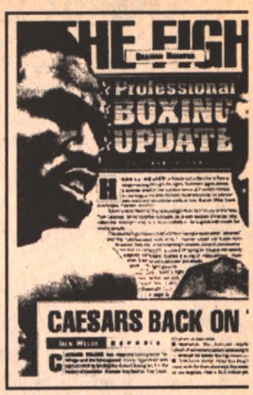

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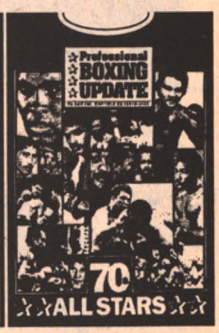

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New Faces

(Continued from page 55)

this guy kept coming in on me with his head up," said Austin. "I couldn't miss. I wasn't looking for an early kayo like this. I wanted to work. But I know the rounds will come as the opposition gets tougher."

Falcone, whose involvement in boxing began while he was living in Philadelphia in the late-'70s, brings his own historical perspective to Austin's career. "I'm not ready to make any comparisons just yet, but there were a couple of moves in there that Tim made which had me thinking about Jeff Chandler," he said of the Gonzalez fight. "Both fighters are 5'7" and, like Chandler, Timmy has that kind of slim frame that doesn't indicate his punching power."

Austin hasn't received much exposure because he's been fighting on the undercards of King's major shows. Right now, the blueprint designed by Falcone and King calls for the bantamweight to be a world champion within three years.

"Nobody is in a hurry because Tim is the first to remind us he has much to learn on the way to becoming a complete fighter," said Falcone. "However, if he continues to develop at the current pace, there is a good possibility we can have Austin in the top 10 within a year. With Don King promoting, Austin just has to keep on winning. It's possible he might even earn a title shot within the next 18 months.

"Once the public learns a little more about his talents, the most significant thing about Tim Austin is he's a bantamweight who hits like a middleweight. From the day he turned pro, our byword has been 'Take your time.'

Austin began boxing, or at least street-fighting, when he was eight. It was his older brother Tommy who got him interested in organized boxing.

"Tommy started bringing home a lot of trophies, and he won some Golden Gloves titles around Cincinnati as a featherweight," Austin recalled. "But it was strictly amateur—he never turned pro."

The younger Austin brought home his share of trophies, too. In 1986, he won the National Junior Olympics title at 90 pounds. He returned one year later as a 112-pounder and lost in the gold medal match to Mark Johnson, who is [illegible] world-rated flyweight. Austin won the E[illegible] Olympic Trials in 1988, then lost to Brian L[illegible] in the semifinals. In 1990, he made the fi[illegible] the National Golden Gloves tournament, [illegible] losing to Johnson. Then, in 1991, he exp[illegible] winning the Nationals, as well as gold med[illegible] the Goodwill Games and the Olympic Festiv[illegible]

In 1992, Austin, who compiled an ov[illegible] amateur mark of 113-9, capped his punch-for[illegible] career by winning in a USA vs. Cuba compet[illegible] triumphing at the Olympic Box-offs, and capt[illegible] two bouts in Barcelona before losing by first-r[illegible] stoppage to Cuba's Raul Gonzalez.

In reviewing his Olympic experience, A[illegible] said he didn't remember Gonzalez' first [illegible] then added he lost "in a close bout." O[illegible] fighter with a sense of history, we supp[illegible] would remember Ezzard Charles and fi[illegible] perhaps the most important amateur bout o[illegible] career. Regardless, what Austin wants to do [illegible] is give Cincinnati reason to remember him.

"Whether it's amateurs or pros," Falcone, "our banner is 'Just get the job d[illegible] Don't worry about anything, just get th[illegible] done. Tim is just starting his bid for the to[illegible] he has to already be an inspiration to

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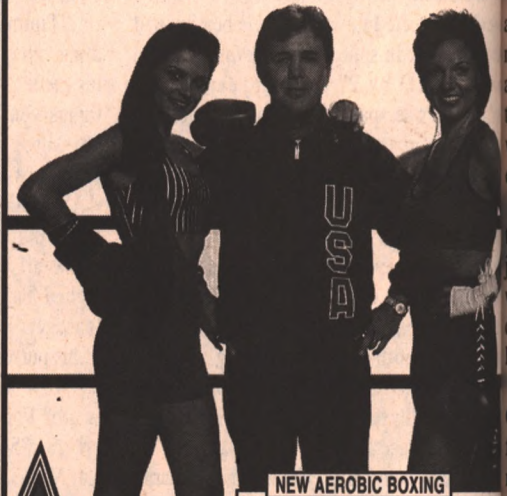

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Jack Welsh is THE RING'S *correspondent in Las Vegas.*

Brothers

(Continued from page 25)

him, it was almost like I'd won."

Leija, who had pried the title loose from Nelson in May, entered the ring at the MGM Grand on September 17 highly favored to retain the belt. But Gabe fooled the experts and gave the best performance of his career, dazzling both Leija and the judges to win a unanimous decision.

You couldn't blame the oddsmakers for having installed Leija as a 5-2 favorite..Despite winning five straight since the loss to Nelson, Ruelas hadn't looked particularly spectacular. Some observers went as far as saying that he'd never been the same since breaking his elbow in an April 1990 loss to Jeff Franklin. But any lingering effects from the Franklin or Nelson defeats were more psychological than physical.

"I was kinda down after the Nelson fight," admitted Ruelas. "Right after the fight I said to myself, 'God, I could fight him again tomorrow and win!' I knew what I'd done wrong. I'd got too confident after a good start. I knew I was winning every round, but I just didn't push hard enough.

"Then, as time went by, I got frustrated. I was the number-one contender for two years, and I just wasn't into those tuneup fights mentally. But when I got the shot at Leija, I knew what I had to do: put pressure on every round, never let up, and keep going hard until the fight was over."

The strategy worked to perfection. Though Gabe suffered a flash knockdown in the fifth, he floored Leija twice to put the fight beyond the reach of the defending champion.

Boxing is a harsh game, and it's always a surprise when dreams come true. Gabe and Rafael Ruelas have been dreaming of winning world titles since they first wandered into the gym as scrawny pre-teens. The odds against even one brother winning a world title were steep enough, but the odds against both winning were astronomical. That, however, didn't stop Gabe and Rafael. Through all the ups and downs, they kept faith in their abilities—and each other.

And when the Leija fight was over and Gabe had been declared the new champion, he put things in perspective by talking about his baby son, who had been born shortly before he left for training camp.

"This victory is for my kid, who I haven't seen for a month and a half," he proclaimed. "I've worked all my life for this moment."

You see, world titles and the fame and fortune they bring are secondary to the Ruelas brothers. For them, family has always come first. ■

Quincy Taylor

(Continued from page 31)

quiet eloquence about responsibility and trust. On the surface he's cautious and jaded. Below, compassion bubbles up, amplifying the social ideals he prefers to talk about.

Taylor is from the mean streets of South and West Dallas. He trains in the Pacific Northwest. It is there that he has rediscovered his ability to trust.

When he left boxing, Taylor, then 15-3 (12), walked away from unscrupulous managers, promoters, and matchmakers. He returned to Dallas to operate a forklift in a beer distribution center. His comeback began in Oklahoma City in July 1992. Six fights later, in March 1994, he took the NABF title from the previously unbeaten Otis Grant in Boston. Taylor's 12th-round knockout has been the USA Network's knockout of the year.

Prime Network's analyst for the Rolon fight, former WBA featherweight champion Barry McGuigan, agreed with Petronelli. "Taylor maneuvers an opponent," he said. "He's a very skilled set-up man with strength and a chin. His defense is his offense."

Few fighters have started out with such a prodigious beginning. Taylor, a natural southpaw, is a former two-time Texas Golden Gloves champion. Shortly after he turned pro, he was selected by Leonard as a sparring partner for Sugar Ray's April 1987 challenge of then-champion Hagler. After Taylor scored his unexpected knockdown, Leonard's management immediately signed up the 22-year-old prospect.

"At first I thought I would get in trouble for landing the shot," Taylor recalls. "Then I remember thinking that he was a normal man like me. The good Lord gave him two arms and two legs just like me. I wanted to help him make history, and I wanted to be a part of history."

Soon he hopes to claim his own place in history.

***

Although Taylor has never been knocked down—not in the pros, not in an 80-fight amateur career—it hasn't been easy for him. He says he

(Continued on page 58)

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Quincy Taylor

(Continued from page 57)

has strayed from the path, but the Lord keeps pulling him back. He considers boxing to be only one part of a larger spiritual life. "All God's creatures have a role to perform," he says, "for the bigger reasons, for the spirit.

"If kids in Dallas can look at me and say, 'He did it ... he pulled himself up out of the strife,' then maybe they can have hope. Maybe they can say, 'I am, I can.' My role and the fighting is small compared to the whole."

Taylor knows that regardless of his commitment, the future is not going to be easy. As a middleweight, he fights in one of the toughest divisions in boxing. Taylor is rated third by the WBC, seventh by the IBF, and 10th by the WBA. WBC champion Gerald McClellan is considered the best powerpuncher in the game, and fighting one division above, James Toney and Roy Jones are pound-for-pound entrants.

After his impressive "War In The Woods" with the aggressive, determined Rolon, Taylor feels he deserves a shot at the IBF title, soon to be vacated by Jones. He'll probably have to wait; it's anticipated top-rated Bernard Hopkins and the number-two contender, Ecuador's Segundo Mercado, will be matched to fill the throne.

At Foxwoods, Taylor started slowly, but his deft and cool command of the ring soon established a rhythm for the fight. Rolon tested him early, landing several smarting overhand rights. Between the second and third rounds, trainer and former world welterweight champion Curtis Cokes exhorted Taylor to "fight your fight. Dictate. Make him fight your fight!" That's exactly what Taylor did.

"I had the one-two available all night," Taylor would later say. "I started to land it early, but there's no quit in him. He's a tough guy."

The combination of snappy right jabs and stiff straight lefts dropped Rolon twice in the fourth, and referee Frank Cappuccino almost stopped the bout at the end of the round. But the challenger fought on, and Taylor began to whack him with left uppercuts and smashing straight lefts that were set up by agile moves. Taylor would feint a jab. Or suddenly lunge inside to keep Rolon off-balance. Or sidestep his charging foe, creating angles which allowed him to pinpoint his targets at minimum risk. All this, and more; throughout the fight, he had to concern himself with Rolon's reckless use of his head.

The NABF champion was ahead on all three cards when the fight was halted at the 2:06 mark of the eighth. When he scored a third knockdown with a perfect left to the chin, Cappuccino didn't bother to count.

"He's a southpaw who can bring [illegible] Petronelli said of Taylor. "He's not as ornery, as mean as Marvin, who was versatile but lo to bang. Really, they're a lot alike, but Mar always wanted to get you out of there right aw Destroy. That was Marvin."

***

Taylor is happy now, training with Coke Dallas and at the Lost Mountain Training Ca in Sequim, Washington. He is managed by amateur fighter named David Klein. When Kl fights, Taylor becomes his manager. So how this tough kid from the worst parts of Dallas up in the peaceful Pacific Northwest?

Taylor knocked out nine of his first opponents, garnering the nickname "Bi Tyson." In 1988, his first loss came at the ha of Terry Norris in a bout televised on ESPN.

Shortly after the Norris bout, Leon discontinued his association with management team. Gone were Sugar Ra connections—and his money. Taylor hooked with Taylor August, who managed and trai him, and won five of his next seven fights, lo twice by disputed decision to Mexican for world champion Jorge Vaca. When he hung his gloves, he felt "choked off" by people had violated his trust. The game, which was game at all, wasn't worth it.

It was a series of incidents that had sou him. First was the disappointment of Leona pullout. Then came extreme difficulty in get fights. Then, when he secured a few dec paydays, he says he had to pay kickbacks to matchmakers who got him the work. The ultim insult came when he became a target of the I He had, it seems, failed to pay taxes on kickback money, which had been part of purses.

"It's never the fighters," he says. "It's people who run the business. They soured m all aspects of the sport. It wasn't Sugar Leonard. It was only his name they used. Wh came to Washington, Rocky Lockridge's pe tried to sell my contract to David, but they d own it! They were selling something they d own! It comes down to what kind of people want to spend your time with."

"The values of loyalty were not there his management before," says Klein. "Quincy always been treated like a piece of meat, whi the stereotypical boxing thing, rather than valued human being."

There would be, however, a second chapte

"A couple of years ago, I was in Ire helping Steve Collins prepare for the Re Johnson fight, when people said, '*You* shou fighting for a world title.' To me that wa Lord's voice, planting the seed in my mind.

(Continued on page

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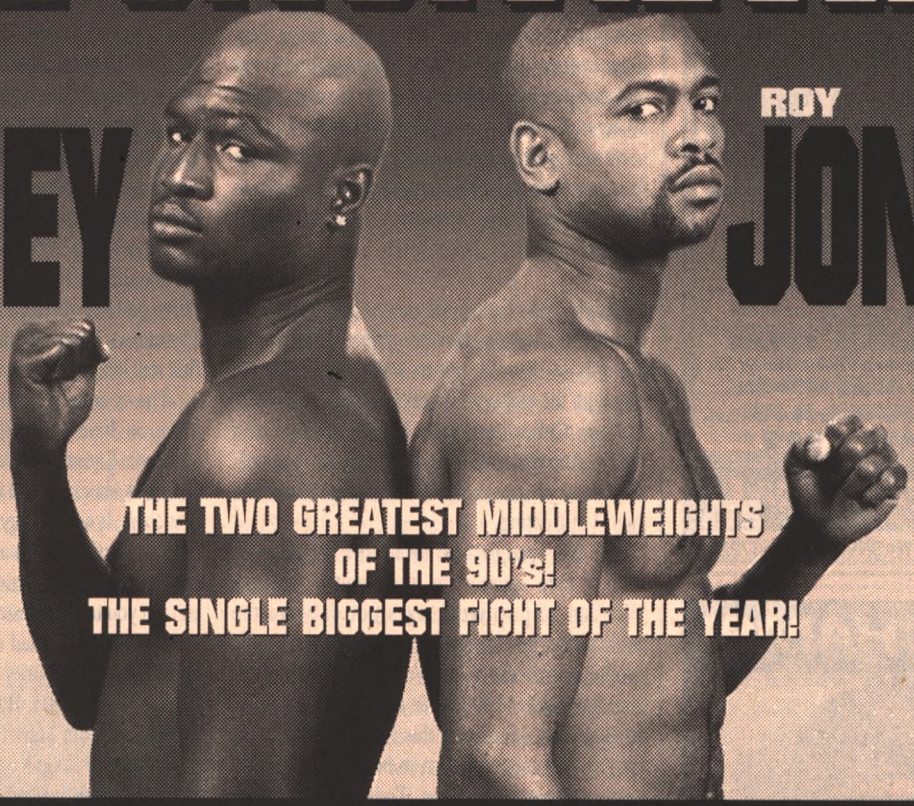

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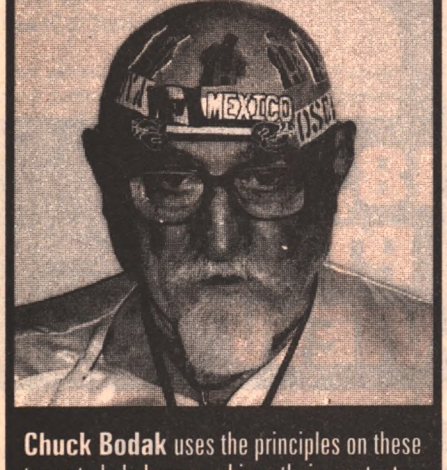

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Quincy Taylor

(Continued from page 58)

hooked up with Lockridge's people, so I went up to Tacoma, Washington, where I heard about David Klein and the Lost Mountain camp."

Lost Mountain had been built on the *Field Of Dreams* proposition, "If I build it, they will come." Taylor quickly hit it off with Klein, a self-professed "boxing nut" who owns a film library of hundreds of fights. The tough city kid rediscovered boxing in the woods; the camp is on 80 acres, bordering Olympic National Park in the northwest part of the state. Klein's 1,500-square foot gym is in Sequim, a town known for its crab fishing. Like Taylor's success, the town was built on faith.

***

Taylor says Cokes has taught him to throw a punch for a reason, that the object of boxing is not only to do well, but to walk away from the ring with the ability to function in society as well. He says Cokes has taught him the "why" of a punch. And understanding the "why" of a punch, Taylor says, has helped him understand the "why" of fighting.

"It takes people who love other people, who want to help upgrade the community," he says. "We can be positive images not only for the community, but for the kids. The drive-bys, the people selling drugs ... We want to stop all of that. Spiritually, I believe in the Lord. He has me do His work. I feel as if this is one thing He has assigned for me to do. I'm in boxing because the Lord wants me in boxing. Today kids listen to me. That's a gift. When I win the world title they'll listen to me more. That's what all this is for. What else?

"Boxing can make you a civilized person in the real world. You don't have to show how ignorant you are by being a bully. You can be wise and helpful, and the main thing is you can be yourself. It's a disciplined sport that can make you a better person."

But what about bad intentions? With Taylor, it is difficult to escape the question: Is he mean enough? Is he angry enough? Is he *tough* enough? Only tougher competition will provide a final answer.

"I can turn it on," he says, not the least bit concerned. "I am 'The Comeback Kid.' Very much so. It's my time to shine. There's a time and a place for everything. It's meant for me now. Like the saying goes, 'Love may not come when you want it, but it's always on time.' It's time for me to win the world title." ■

Tom Deedy is a freelance writer based in Quaker Hill, Connecticut.

Time Capsule

(Continued from page 33)

if it was a low punch, it was unintentional.

Sharkey, of course, quickly unretired. A days later, he boldly demanded a return bou surely deserve first crack at the title," he said Jack had to wait his turn, two full years, exact. Maxie's first defense was a 15th-r knockout of Young Stribling in July 1 Sharkey kept busy that same year with two at the home of the Brooklyn Dodgers bas team, Ebbets Field. He looked painfully against overstuffed and over-the-hill for middleweight champion Mickey Walker and lucky to wind up with a 15-round draw. But second of those two 1931 outings, Sharkey s back to life. In full command of his extraord skills, he overwhelmed huge Primo Carnera 15 rounds, handing Italy's champion-to-b first real beating of his career.

The second Sharkey-Schmeling fight place on June 21, 1932, at the new, sprawl Madison Square Garden Bowl. Its ending almost as shocking and controversial as that first clash. It was a lousy fight—if it can be c fight at all. One bored and disgusted guy in seat grunted to his dozing companion, "This can put you to sleep faster than four aspirin."

Since Sharkey had completely dominat first fight, the majority opinion was that he declared the winner. But Schmeling had Sh on strings from start to finish. *Everybod* dead-certain Maxie's hand was going to be in victory. But instead, Sharkey was hande decision and the heavyweight crown. Incred

Now it was Schmeling's turn to be rest and bitter, further intensifying the Germ blazing feud with the American. Alth Sharkey-Schmeling II was a most forgeta episode in boredom, it did result in a perm addition to most of the world's ma languages. Immediately after the bizarre de was announced, fireball Joe Jacobs prac dove head-first into the ring, his eyes b with anger, spit drooling from his m "Robbery!" screamed the pint-sized mana he accosted referee Gunboat Smith. "You be arrested!" After they pulled Joe awa Smith, Jacobs spotted famous blow-by announcer Graham McNamee spouting minute barrages into his oversized micro Joe shoved his head under the ropes, just McNamee's ringside position, and yell immortal words: "WE WUZ ROBBED!"

There should have been a rubber matc the bitterness between the factions pre even preliminary negotiations.

Sharkey held the title only 373 days before being stopped by Carnera. He continued fighting another three years, until age 34, when Joe Louis kayoed him in 1936. But Schmeling's greatest moment of glory was yet to come. In 1936, he stunned the world by shattering the myth of Louis' invincibility with a 12th-round knockout of "The Brown Bomber." Max continued working his trade until 1948, when he reached the age of 43.

When Sharkey died this past August 17, two months short of what would have been his 92nd birthday, the title of Oldest Living Former Heavyweight Champion passed to Schmeling. Passing along anything to Schmeling except a hard shot to the chin—or belly—must surely have irked this fierce, iron-willed, uniquely talented competitor who is not rated in the highest echelon of professional fist fighters. However, Jack did accomplish a feat no other former world heavyweight champion could manage: He hit his 90s. But his old enemy is closing fast; on September 28, 1994, Germany's living legend turned a remarkably healthy 89.

You could say these two ancient foes, who began their rivalry more than 65 years ago in what seemed to have been the Stone Age, are still at it, battling it out for the very special title of The Longevity Heavyweight Championship Of All-Time. And it's very comforting to know that in this third Sharkey-Schmeling encounter, there is only one official. ■

Dave Maier

(Continued from page 45)

the former heavyweight champion, who was fighting exhibition bouts in the early-'30s, sent his representative to see about scheduling Maier as an opponent.

Recalls Maier, "The guy asked me, 'Are you gonna try to knock Dempsey out?' I said, 'Sure. He's gonna try to knock me out, isn't he?'"

The headline in the next day's newspaper was "Dempsey Says No To Maier."

The only one unimpressed with the Milwaukeean's fighting was Maier's mother. "She was against fighting," he says. "She said, 'I raised you right and you go out and get hit, bing-bang-boom!'"

To show her that he could handle himself in the ring, Maier had a cousin bring his mom to watch him against King Levinsky at the Milwaukee Auditorium in April 1930. The hard-punching Chicago fish-peddler beat some excellent fighters in his career, including Tommy Loughran and Jimmy Slattery, but he's remembered now as one of the ring's great buffoons. That night in Milwaukee, however, he was Einstein to Maier's Charley McCarthy.

"That was my fault," Maier says of the bing-bang-boom inflicted by Levinsky. "I didn't train. I said, 'That bum couldn't knock out peanuts!' The bell rang and he threw a haymaker and I was out."

One of the greatest boxers ever, Loughran gave up his 175-pound title in 1929 to campaign as a heavyweight. Maier's handlers brought the Philadelphian to Milwaukee, figuring that even with only 11 pro bouts under his belt, the local hero would take him.

"They thought he was going downhill," says Maier. "S___, he beat lots of heavyweights after that. He wasn't going down! But I didn't mind. Geez, I got a chance to fight somebody."

Though Loughran won all but two of the 10 rounds on Sam Levy's scorecard, the writer noted that "Maier was not disgraced in defeat—he met a master."

Maier kept improving. One year later he whipped top 175-pound contender Lou Scozza. In his next fight, he stopped veteran George Nichols in Buffalo, Nichols' fighting headquarters. Frank Wakefield of the *Buffalo Evening News* wrote after that, "With his color and knockout punch [he had scored 14 kayo wins in 19 starts], Maier possibly is the lad to add much-needed elixir to the decadent 175-pound division."

Actually, the problem with the light heavyweights wasn't decadence as much as dissipation, which was the favorite pastime of Slapsy Maxie Rosenbloom, who'd ascended to the title in 1930, and who earned his nickname by cuffing opponents with an open glove.

"Maier looked like a champion in beating Rosenbloom," said the *Milwaukee Sentinel* after the contender soundly whipped the champion in a New Year's Day, 1932, non-title fight. "From start to finish, Rosenbloom had a tough time with Davie because of the southpaw style. He just couldn't figure him out and was forced to call on all his ring generalship and experience to keep from being knocked out."

"He was a happy-go-lucky guy," Maier says of Rosenbloom. "He told me, 'Your shoelaces are open,' and, 'Take it easy and I'll let you stay the limit.' But I didn't go for it."

Rosenbloom's preference for frequent non-title matches over putting the championship on the line led the National Boxing Association to declare the title vacant and organize a tournament to crown a new 175-pound king. Forty-four light heavyweights, or "95 percent of the fighters active in the division," according to one wire service, signed up.

Among them was Maier, who advanced to the finals by beating Roy Williams and Abie Bain in

(Continued on page 62)

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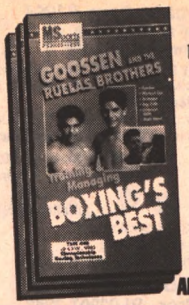

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Dave Maier

(Continued from page 61)

Chicago. When he knocked out Bain in a single round at Chicago Stadium in January 1932, "the 12,000 customers gave Maier a tremendous ovation when he entered the ring. They went wilder when he left," reported the *Chicago Tribune*.

Maier was favored to beat George Nichols in the tournament final in March 1932. He'd already stopped Nichols once, and the Buffaloan was really little more than a middleweight—he scaled just 164 pounds. But Nichols had amazed everyone by beating Charley Belanger, Lou Scozza, and Billy Jones to make the final.

It was the first time two left-handers met for a title, and when it was over, the *Chicago Tribune's* French Lane wrote, "The margin of victory was so close, referee Phil Collins and the two judges hardly knew what to do. It was a vicious, hard-punching, devil-may-care affair. They whaled away at each other with so much force that one or the other might have been knocked all the way to Ashaland Boulevard."

Nichols got the split decision and championship belt.

Sixty-two years later, Maier says, "I th was robbed, but what you gonna do? You go with whatever the judges say."

But his heart wasn't in boxing after that he fought only one more time, quitting the r age 24. In 1936, "I bummed my way to Se got in a crap game, and went broke." He jo the Merchant Marines and served in World II. Then he moved to Los Angeles, where h lived ever since.

Maier's wife died some years back, an his other relatives are in Milwaukee cemete He takes daily walks, watches ballgames an news, and doesn't think so much of the fig he sees today.

"Years ago they were much hungrier. you got mechanical fighters—jab and cl They don't give a damn as long as they ge big money," says the man whose biggest p for his championship fight, was $3,200.

But overall there is little to complain a "I'm in good shape, and thank the Lord for he says.

Plus, it's Tuesday, and almost lunchtime.

Pete Ehrmann, a frequent contribu
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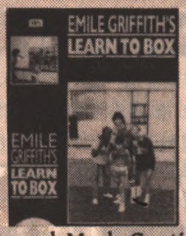

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June 1968: Boone Kirkman: Heavyweight Threat. Plus: Ken Buchanan, Sonny Liston, Ernie Terrell, southpaws, Nino Benvenuti & Frank Sinatra.

Nov. 1968: Are Today's Fighters Overpaid? Plus: Joey Archer, Emile Griffith, Sugar Ray Robinson, Fritzie Zivic.

Dec. 1968: Is World Boxing Association Crumbling? Plus: Ellis-Patterson, George Chuvalo, Kid Gavilan, Bob Foster.

May 1969: Frazier-Ellis—A Knockout For 1969! Plus: Mando Ramos, Bob Foster, cornermen, Marty Servo.

Aug. 1970: Robinson, Saldivar Only Two To Do It. Plus: Cassius Clay, Benvenuti-Bethea, Jose Ibar Urtain, Leotis Martin, David Vasquez, Bugner-London.

Feb. 1972: Will Tax Bite KO Foreign Invasion? Plus: Clay-Mathis, Quarry-Bodell, Mando Ramos, Ruben Olivares, Foreman-Pires, Foster-Hicks.

May 1972: The Time Has Come, Says Foreman. Plus: Joe Frazier, Patterson-Bonavena, Bennie Briscoe, Duane Bobick, Peter Jackson.

Aug. 1972: Joe Frazier: "Clay's Jab Gone, I'll KO Him." Plus: Frazier-Stander, Quarry-Middleton, Eddie Perkins, Ben Villaflor, Esteban DeJesus.

Oct. 1972: Fleischer Exclusive: All-Time Choices (96-page collector's issue): Plus: Clay-Lewis, Patterson-Agosto, Bold Bendigo, Tony Licata, controversial punches, Jose Luis Garcia.

Nov. 1972: How Good Is Lightweight Champ Roberto Duran? Plus: George Foreman, Joe Frazier, Duran-Buchanan, Monzon-Bogs, Rocky Graziano, Dempsey-Firpo.

July 1973: Has Time Come For Ali To Quit? Plus: Ken Norton, George Foreman, Bruno Arcari, Danny Lopez, Jimmy Richards, Henry Cooper, Antonio Cervantes, Bobby Chacon.

Sept. 1973: Ali's Revenge? Muhammad Ali vs. Ken Norton—The Battle Of Broken Jaw. Plus: Frazier-Bugner, Shavers-Ellis, Chacon-Olivares, Terrell-Wepner, Monzon-Griffith.

June 1974: Foreman Supreme After Second-Round KO Over Norton. Plus: Duran-DeJesus, Obed Aims, Bat Battalino, Johnny & Tony Mareno, Pedro Agosto, Olivares-Hafey.

Nov.-Dec. 1974: Where Do We Go From Zaire? Plus: Bob Foster, Napoles-Lewis, Angel Mayoral, new faces, Sam Taub, Lopez-Toyoshima.

Nov. 1975: George Foreman: Forgotten World Heavyweight Champ. Plus: Roberto Duran, Ken Buchanan, Alfredo Escalera, Teddy Brenner, Ken Buchanan, U.S. title

Dec. 1975: Inside Story! Ali-Frazier Super Fite III. Plus: Kotey-Olivares, Escalera-Hernandez, Lyle-Shavers, Briscoe-Gregory, Ray Robinson, Jack Schmeling.

Jan. 1976: Foreman Next For Ali? Plus: Ken Norton, Arguello-Kobayashi, Johnson-Dunn, Duran-Viruet, Jose Napoles, Lou Nova.

Feb. 1976: Today's Champ-Rated Pound For Pound. Plus: Madison Square Garden, Brisco Hart, Ray Lampkin, Dempse Gibbons, Antonio Cervantes, Georg Carpentier.

Sept. 1977: Norton-Young: Will To Fight Ali! Plus: Sugar R Leonard, Michael and Leon Spin John Tate, Palomino-Gre Galindez-Kates II, Wilfredo Gom Irish-American fighters.

Nov. 1977: Monzon Retires. P Next middleweight king?, Argue Fernandez, Benitez-Guerre Mattioli-Dagge, Palacios-Muniz.

Nov. 1978: Fifteen T Heavyweights: Which Have Chance At Crown? Plus: Bob Ar Mickey Walker, Hagler-Brisco Fernandez-Arguello, Vorasin Estaba.

Feb. 1979: Larry Holmes Powe Evangelista: Plus: Joe Louis, Co Valdez, Gomez-Zarate, Frank Lopez, Leonard-Prada, Hag Warren, Joey Olivo, Gene Tunney

July 1979: Foreman Exclusi Preach Or Punch? Plus: M Weaver, Jack Sharkey, Galind Rossman II, Franklin-Johnson Jorge Lujan, Watt-Pitalua, Chac Limon II, Conteh-Burnett, Leon Viruet, federal commission?

Nov. 1979: Leonard: Sweet Eno To Be Called "Sugar Ray"? P Wilfred Benitez, Willie Pep, 10 w heavyweights, Monzon combat Cuevas-Shields, Leonard-Ranz Muhammad-Conteh, Hilmer Kenty

Dec. 1979: What's Next For L Holmes? Plus: Holmes-Shaver Pipino Cuevas, Thomas Hea Arum & King, Leonard-Price, Gon Mendoza.

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Boxing Collector's Notebook

By Don Scott

Even after being involved in the hobby of boxing memorabilia and writing about it for 15 years, I wonder about the things that remain a mystery to us. One would think the collecting community would have figured it all out by now, but we haven't. It has occurred to me that you might be able to help. Here are some things we don't know. If you do know, drop me a line through THE RING.

• *Referee*, *Redhead*, and *Knockout* are weekly magazines that were apparently published on the West Coast from the early part of the century through the '70s. They contained terrific stories on fights and fighters. Here's what we *don't* know: When did these magazines start and stop production? Did the magazines serve as official fight programs? (Serious boxing collectors are keenly interested in possessing the programs sold at the fights.) Were there other programs sold at these fights? Were these magazines available through subscription?

• Here's one about a magazine near and dear to our hearts: In the '20s, THE RING produced one- and four-page "programs" that were labeled as "free with a copy of THE RING" and had THE RING logo on them. Same kind of questions here: Were these given out at newsstands, sold with THE RING at fights, or both? Were there other programs at these fights?

• What about the one-page programs that were published by *Sporting Pictorial*? There is such a program for the Tunney-Greb bouts.

• And while we're on the subject of programs, where is the program for the Dempsey-Brennan fight? Most of the old programs we've seen are from the New York area. Dempsey-Brennan was fought at Madison Square Garden, yet that program is one that's never been seen. Why?

• On to cards. The 49-card Leaf set put out in 1949 is still popular among collectors. But a 50th card has been found, with the subject being Rocky Graziano. I've seen an uncut sheet of 7x7 cards, but that totals only 49. Only two Graziano Leafs are known to exist. We can speculate, but does anyone really know why?

***

Boxing recently lost two Hall of Famers. Many of us were introduced to the fighters of the '30s and '40s through memorabilia. Sports collectors are like that; you find something, then you wonder about the fighter, then you do a little research. I first learned about Jack Sharkey by purchasing a Dempsey-Sharkey program. He had a fascinating career.

Did you know that in Peter Heller's book, *In This Corner*, Sharkey said that when he fought Primo Carnera, he actually saw the face of his friend, Ernie Schaaf, in the ring? (Schaaf had died of blows absorbed during a fight with Carnera.) Defending heavyweight champion Sharkey lost his concentration and was caught by an uppercut that cost him the crown. He was dogged by accusations that he threw the fight. But soon after, he went into polite retirement and became a consummate fly fisherman.

Many of us were introduced to Ike Williams through the old magazines, cards, and programs we had collected. We discovered a remarkable fighter. Those of us who make it a point to annually attend induction weekend at the International Boxing Hall of Fame in Canastota were fortunate to meet Williams. What a real gentleman he was. Like Sharkey, he will be missed. ■

Don Scott is editor and publisher of ***Boxing Collector's News*** *and may be contacted through* THE RING.

Worldwide Ratings

The ratings of the three major governing bodies recognized by THE RING are supplied by the organizations themselves. They are updated on these pages as soon as they are made available to us. In this issue, the WBC and WBA ratings were compiled as of August, while the IBF ratings were compiled as of September.

HEAVYWEIGHTS	WBC	WBA	IBF
Lennox Lewis (GB)	C	–	–
Michael Moorer (USA)	–	C	C
Oliver McCall (USA)	1	1	1
Tony Tucker (USA)	2	2	2
Lionel Butler (USA)	3	12	–
Joe Hipp (USA)	4	6	4
Larry Donald (USA)	5	11	8
Bruce Seldon (USA)	6	3	3
Henry Akinwande (GB)	7	7	6
Jorge Luis Gonzalez (CUBA)	8	9	12
Alexandre Zolkin (RUS)	9	–	–
Frank Bruno (GB)	10	–	–
Razor Ruddock (CAN)	13	4	–
Frans Botha (SA)	17	5	9
Riddick Bowe (USA)	–	8	5
Nate Tubbs (USA)	25	10	11
Buster Mathis (USA)	14	–	7
George Foreman (USA)	–	–	10

CRUISERWEIGHTS	WBC	WBA	IBF
Anaclet Wamba (FRA)	C	–	–
Orlin Norris (USA)	–	C	–
Alfred Cole (USA)	–	–	C
Norbert Ekassi (CAM)	1	6	8
Carl Thompson (GB)	2	9	10
Sergei Kobozev (RUS)	3	–	2
Adolpho Washington (USA)	4	12	3
Kenny Keene (USA)	5	2	–
Marcelo Dominguez (ARG)	6	–	–
Jade Scott (USA)	7	–	7
Akim Tafer (FRA)	8	11	11
Robert Daniels (USA)	9	–	12
Arthur Williams (USA)	10	–	–
Thomas Hearns (USA)	–	1	6
Marcelo Figueroa (ARG)	17	3	–
David Izegwire (NIG)	12	4	–
Ralf Rocchigiani (GER)	29	5	–
James Heath (USA)	–	7	–
Nate Miller (USA)	15	8	4
Richard Mason (USA)	28	10	5
Uriah Grant (USA)	–	–	1
Chemak Saleta (POL)	–	–	9

LT. HEAVYWEIGHTS	WBC	WBA	IBF
Mike McCallum (USA)	C	–	–
Virgil Hill (USA)	–	C	–
Henry Maske (GER)	–	–	C
Fabrice Tiozzo (FRA)	1	2	6
Jeff Harding (AUSTRL)	2	–	3
Randall Yonker (USA)	3	12	–
Egerton Marcus (CAN)	4	7	1
Frank Tate (USA)	5	5*	–
Maurice Core (GB)	6	–	–
Eddy Smulders (HOLL)	7	6	11
Thulane Malinga (SA)	8	–	–
Eric Nicoletta (FRA)	9	4	–
Gary Delaney (GB)	10	–	–
Wang Sup Lee (KOR)	–	1	–
Darius Michalczewski (POL)	–	3	–
Brent Kosolofski (CAN)	–	8	–
Drake Thadzi (CAN)	–	9	–
Ernie Magdaleno (USA)	14	10	9
Duran Williams (USA)	–	–	2
John Scully (USA)	–	–	4
Charles Williams (USA)	13	–	5
Iran Barkley (USA)	–	–	7
Rudy Nix (USA)	11	–	8
Greg Everett (USA)	–	–	10

SUPER MIDDLEWEIGHTS	WBC	WBA	IBF
Nigel Benn (GB)	C	–	–
Frank Liles (USA)	–	C	–
James Toney (USA)	–	–	C
Frederic Seiller (FRA)	1	10	9
Michael Nunn (USA)	2	9	3
Henry Wharton (GB)	3	8	4
Steve Little (USA)	4	4	8
Tim Littles (USA)	5	3	
Vinny Pazienza (USA)	6	6	
Tony Byrd (USA)	7	1	
John David Jackson (USA)	8	–	
Juan Carlos Gimenez (PAR)	9	–	
Kenny Bowman (USA)	10	–	
James Cook (GB)	–	2	
Byun Gin Kang (KOR)	–	5	
Mauricio Amaral (BRA)	–	7	
Roy Jones (USA)	–	–	
Lonnie Bradley (USA)	–	–	
Darrin Van Horn (USA)	–	–	
Tony Thornton (USA)	16	–	

MIDDLEWEIGHTS	WBC	WBA
Gerald McClellan (USA)	C	–
Vacant	–	C
Vacant	–	–
Agostino Cardamone (ITA)	1	10
Julian Jackson (VI)	2	12
Quincy Taylor (USA)	3	8
Bernard Hopkins (USA)	4	7
Richie Woodhall (GB)	5	–
Lonnie Bradley (USA)	6	–
Joe Lipsey (USA)	7	9
Silvio Branco (ITA)	8	–
Otis Grant (CAN)	9	–
Thomas Tate (USA)	10	–
Jorge Castro (ARG)	–	1
Reggie Johnson (USA)	13	2
John David Jackson (USA)	–	3
Peter Venancio (BRA)	–	4
Segundo Mercado (ECU)	12	5
Shinji Takehara (JAP)	18	6
Rafael Williams (USA)	–	–
Juan Viloria (COL)	–	–

JR. MIDDLEWEIGHTS	WBC	WBA
Terry Norris (USA)	C	–
Julio Cesar Vasquez (ARG)	–	C
Gianfranco Rosi (ITA)	–	–
Simon Brown (USA)	1	8
Julio C. Green (USA)	2	3
Carl Daniels (USA)	3	2
Javier Castillejo (SPA)	4	1
Troy Waters (AUSTRL)	5	12
Bronco McKart (USA)	6	–
Darrin Morris (USA)	7	11
Paul Vaden (USA)	8	–
Robert McCracken (GB)	9	–
Stephen Martinez (USA)	10	–
Vincent Pettway (USA)	–	4
Winky Wright (USA)	19	5
Tony Marshall (USA)	16	6
Bernard Razzano (FRA)	–	7
Curtis Summit (USA)	–	9
Paul Vaden (USA)	–	10
Gilberto Barreto (COL)	30	–
Keith Holmes (USA)	–	–
Andrew Council (USA)	25	–

WELTERWEIGHTS	WBC	WBA
Pernell Whitaker (USA)	C	–
Ike Quartey (GHA)	–	C
Felix Trinidad (PR)	–	–
James McGirt (USA)	1	–
Larry Barnes (USA)	2	–
Gary Jacobs (GB)	3	5
Meldrick Taylor (USA)	4	8
Andrew Murray (GUY)	5	2
Wilfredo Rivera (PR)	6	–
Santos Cardona (PR)	7	–
David Gonzalez (USA)	8	–
Luis Santana (USA)	9	–
Derrell Coley (USA)	10	–
Yori Boy Campas (MEX)	–	1
Jung Oh Park (KOR)	13	3
Crisanto Espana (VEN)	11	4
Freddy Ladd (USA)	–	6
Oba Carr (USA)	–	7
Roger Turner (USA)	–	9
Alberto Cortes (ARG)	–	10
Anthony Stephens (USA)	15	–

JR. WELTERWEIGHTS	WBC	WBA
Julio Cesar Chavez (MEX)	C	–
Juan M. Coggi (ARG)	–	C
Jake Rodriguez (USA)	–	–
David Kamau (USA)	1	7
Kostya Tszyu (AUSTRL)	2	–

Tony Lopez (USA)	3	–	–
Joey Gamache (USA)	4	–	–
Hugo Pineda (COL)	5	4	5
Jan Bergman (SA)	6	5	–
Freddie Rojas (CHILE)	7	–	–
Ross Hale (GB)	8	12	–
Lonnie Smith (USA)	9	–	–
Bill Costello (USA)	10	–	–
Frankie Randall (USA)	–	1	10
Khalid Rahilou (FRA)	14	2	–
Gert Bo Jacobsen (DEN)	17	3	–
Won Park (KOR)	25	6	–
George Scott (USA)	–	8	–
Valery Kayumba (FRA)	21	9	–
Christian Merle (FRA)	24	10	–
Rodney Moore (USA)	–	–	2
Charles Murray (USA)	15	–	3
Pedro Padilla (COL)	–	–	4
Giovanni Parisi (ITA)	–	–	6
Pedro Sanchez (DR)	–	–	7
Freddie Pendleton (USA)	–	–	8
Darryll Tyson (USA)	12	–	9

LIGHTWEIGHTS	WBC	WBA	IBF
Miguel Angel Gonzalez (MEX)	**C**	**–**	**–**
Nazarov Olzubek (JAP)	**–**	**C**	**–**
Rafael Ruelas (USA)	**–**	**–**	**C**
Miguel Julio (COL)	1	6	1
Jean Baptist Mendy (FRA)	2	–	–
Leavander Johnson (USA)	3	7	7
Ramon Marchena (MEX)	4	–	5
Ricardo Silva (ARG)	5	–	–
Nicolas Cervera (COL)	6	–	–
Wilfrido Rocha (COL)	7	–	–
Marty Jakubowski (USA)	8	–	11
John Avila (USA)	9	–	–
Dingaan Thobela (SA)	10	–	9
Joey Gamache (USA)	–	1	12
Tony Lopez (USA)	–	2	4
Fabian Tejeda (ARG)	–	3	–
Carl Griffith (USA)	18	4	–
Eduardo Molina (COL)	24	5	2
Adrianus Taroreh (INDO)	29	8	–
Masuaki Takeda (JAP)	–	9	–
Dino Canoy (PHIL)	26	10	–
Billy Schwer (GB)	13	–	3
John Lark (USA)	–	–	6
Steve Johnston (USA)	–	–	8
Ivan Robinson (USA)	–	–	10

JR. LIGHTWEIGHTS	WBC	WBA	IBF
Jesse James Leija (USA)	**C**	**–**	**–**
Genaro Hernandez (USA)	**–**	**C**	**–**
John-John Molina (PR)	**–**	**–**	**C**
Gabriel Ruelas (USA)	1	4	5
Calvin Grove (USA)	2	8	2
Anatoly Alexandrov (RUS)	3	–	–
Ed Hopson (USA)	4	6	4
Tony Pep (CAN)	5	–	–
John Montantesz (USA)	6	–	–
Victor Hugo Paz (ARG)	7	3	–
Wilson Rodriguez (DR)	8	7	1
Fred Liberatore (USA)	9	12	7
Phillip Holiday (SA)	10	–	11
Jimmy Garcia (COL)	–	1	–
Yong Soo Choi (KOR)	22	2	–
Marcos Guevara (VEN)	–	5	–
Lamar Murphy (USA)	–	9	–
Justin Juuko (UGA)	–	10	–
Moises Pedroza (COL)	–	–	3
Arturo Gatti (USA)	13	–	6
Azumah Nelson (GHA)	–	–	8
Fernando Rodriguez (USA)	–	–	9
Samart Payakaroon (THAI)	–	–	10

FEATHERWEIGHTS	WBC	WBA	IBF
Kevin Kelley (USA)	**C**	**–**	**–**
Eloy Rojas (VEN)	**–**	**C**	**–**
Tom Johnson (USA)	**–**	**–**	**C**
Alejandro Gonzalez (MEX)	1	–	7
Cesar Soto (MEX)	2	–	–
Miguel Arrozal (PHIL)	3	3	4
Ever Beleno (COL)	4	6	2
Hector Lizarraga (USA)	5	–	10
Tony Green (USA)	6	–	3
Yung Kyun Park (KOR)	7	2	–
Jose Vida Ramos (DR)	8	–	–
Stefano Zoff (ITA)	9	–	–
Chris Saguid (PHIL)	10	–	–
Luis Mendoza (COL)	–	1	–

Tsuyoshi Harada (JAP)	11	4	–
Samart Payakaroon (THAI)	–	5	–
Fernando Rodriguez (USA)	26	7	–
Orlando Soto (PAN)	14	8	8
Sean Murphy (USA)	–	9	–
Francisco Segura (USA)	–	10	1
Victor Polo (COL)	–	–	5
Jose Badillo (PR)	–	11	6
Benny Amparo (USA)	17	–	9

JR. FEATHERWEIGHTS	WBC	WBA	IBF
Hector Acero-Sanchez (DR)	**C**	**–**	**–**
Wilfredo Vasquez (PR)	**–**	**C**	**–**
Vuyani Bungu (SA)	**–**	**–**	**C**
Julio Gervacio (DR)	1	–	5
Tracy Patterson (USA)	2	–	–
Daniel Zaragoza (MEX)	3	–	–
Jesus Salud (USA)	4	10	6
Jose Badillo (PR)	5	–	–
Frank Toledo (USA)	6	–	–
Reynaldo Hurtado (COL)	7	–	7
Nestor Farias (ARG)	8	7	–
Sergio Liendo (ARG)	9	–	–
Eddie Croft (USA)	10	–	–
Antonio Cermeno (VEN)	–	1	–
Arnulfo Romero (PAN)	21	2	–
Hiroaki Yokota (JAP)	14	3	–
Thierry Jacob (FRA)	17	4	–
Yuichi Kasai (JAP)	16	5	–
Ramon Guzman (VEN)	–	6	–
Junior Jones (USA)	11	8	10
Jae Won Choi (KOR)	–	9	–
Nurhuda (INDO)	–	–	1
Pablo Ozuna (COL)	–	–	2
Welcome Ncita (SA)	12	–	3
Kennedy McKinney (USA)	20	–	4
Agapito Sanchez (DR)	27	–	8
Eddie Cook (USA)	–	–	9

BANTAMWEIGHTS	WBC	WBA	IBF
Joichiro Tatsuyoshi (JAP)	**IC**	**–**	**–**
Yasuei Yakushiji (JAP)	**C**	**–**	**–**
Daorung Chuvatana (THAI)	**–**	**C**	**–**
Orlando Canizales (USA)	**–**	**–**	**C**
Wayne McCullough (IRE)	1	–	4
Victor Rabanales (MEX)	2	–	–
Marco Antonio Barrera (MEX)	3	–	–
Jung Il Byun (KOR)	4	–	–
Khaoyai Mahasarakam (THAI)	5	–	–
Naseem Hamed (GB)	6	8	–
Roberto Moran (ARG)	7	–	–
Dong Choon Lee (KOR)	8	–	–
Harold Mestre (COL)	9	7	2
Cuauhtemoc Gomez (MEX)	10	–	–
Yong Hoon Lee (KOR)	17	1	–
Johnny Bredahl (DEN)	–	2	–
Eliecer Julio (COL)	14	3	10
Nana Konadu (GHA)	–	4	–
John Michael Johnson (USA)	12	5	–
Abraham Torres (VEN)	25	6	8
In Joo Cho (KOR)	–	9	–
Frank Toledo (USA)	–	10	–
Juvenal Berrio (COL)	–	–	1
Lauren Ramirez (SPA)	29	–	3
Ricardo Vargas (MEX)	21	–	5
Sergio Reyes (USA)	–	–	6
John Armour (GB)	11	–	7
Mbuelo Botile (SA)	28	–	9

JR. BANTAMWEIGHTS	WBC	WBA	IBF
Hiroshi Kawashima (JAP)	**C**	**–**	**–**
Katsuya Onizuka (JAP)	**–**	**C**	**–**
Harold Grey (COL)	**–**	**–**	**C**
Jose Luis Bueno (MEX)	1	9	–
Cecilio Espino (MEX)	2	–	11
Nana Konadu (GHA)	3	–	–
Gerry Penalosa (PHIL)	4	4	–
Joel Luna Zarate (MEX)	5	–	3
Sung Kil Moon (KOR)	6	–	–
In Joo Cho (KOR)	7	–	–
Carlos Salazar (ARG)	8	–	–
Johnny Bredahl (DEN)	9	–	–
Seung Koo Lee (KOR)	10	6	–
Hyung Chul Lee (KOR)	–	1	–
Khaoyai Mahasarakam (THAI)	–	2	–
Ernie Cataluna (PHIL)	–	3	–
David Griman (VEN)	–	5	–
Satoshi Iida (JAP)	17	7	9
In Sik Koh (KOR)	20	8	–
Ernesto Briceno (VEN)	21	10	–

Julio Borboa (MEX)	–	–	1
Marco Antonio Barrera (MEX)	–	–	2
Johnny Tapia (USA)	11	–	4
Rolando Bohol (PHIL)	–	–	5
Ratanachai Sow Voraphin (THAI)	25	–	6
Jaji Sibali (SA)	–	–	7
Rodolfo Blanco (COL)	–	–	8
Lamhot Simamora (INDO)	15	–	10

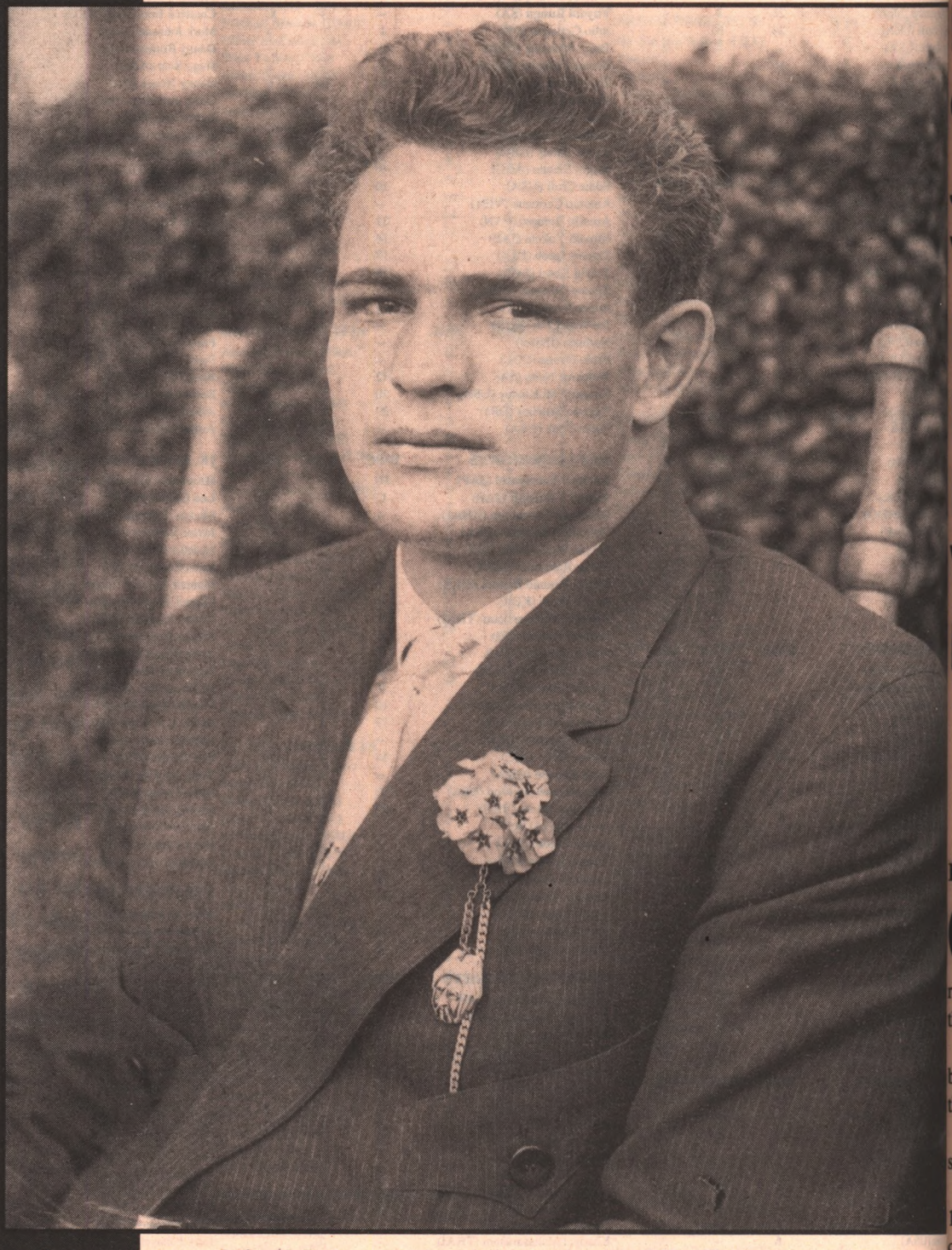
FLYWEIGHTS	WBC	WBA	IBF
Yuri Arbachakov (RUS)	**C**	**–**	**–**
San Sow Ploenchit (THAI)	**–**	**C**	**–**
Phichit Sithbangprachan (THAI)	**–**	**–**	**C**
Chatchai Eric-Gym (THAI)	1	9	–
Mark Johnson (USA)	2	–	4
Danny Romero (USA)	3	–	5
Hugo Soto (ARG)	4	–	–
Danny Nunez (DR)	5	–	–
Oscar Arciniega (MEX)	6	–	–
Raul Rios (MEX)	7	–	–
Miguel Martinez (MEX)	8	–	8
Enrique Orozco (MEX)	9	–	–
Jesus Zuniga (COL)	10	–	–
Evangelino Perez (PAN)	24	1	–
Alvaro Mercado (COL)	–	2	–
Hiroki Ioka (JAP)	23	3	–
Aquiles Guzman (VEN)	–	4	–
Jesus Rojas (VEN)	–	5	–
Chokchai Chorniwat (THAI)	15	6	–
Jose Bonilla (VEN)	20	7	–
Jose Luis Zepeda (MEX)	–	8	1
Luigi Camputaro (ITA)	16	10	–
Francisco Tejedor (COL)	29	–	2
Ferid Ben Jeddou (TUN)	22	–	3
Abdi Pohan (INDO)	–	–	6
Robbie Regan (GB)	13	–	7
Alberto Jimenez (MEX)	–	–	9
Arthur Johnson (USA)	–	–	10

JR. FLYWEIGHTS	WBC	WBA	IBF
Humberto Gonzalez (MEX)	**C**	**–**	**C**
Leo Gamez (VEN)	**–**	**C**	**–**
Michael Carbajal (USA)	1	–	1
Javier Varguez (MEX)	2	–	–
Melchor Cob Castro (MEX)	3	8	5
Jesus Chong (MEX)	4	6	–
Manuel de Jesus Herrera (DR)	5	–	–
Miguel Angel Granados (MEX)	6	–	–
Fahlan Sakkirin (THAI)	7	3	2
Saman Sorjaturong (THAI)	8	–	–
Yong Soon Chang (KOR)	9	9	–
Tomonori Tamura (JAP)	10	–	–
Hi Yong Choi (KOR)	19	1	–
Virgilio Chifundo (PAN)	28	2	–
Hadao C.P. Gym (THAI)	–	4	–
Yuichi Hosono (JAP)	17	5	7
Eric Griffin (USA)	16	7	4
Yong Jin Kim (KOR)	29	10	–
Jesus Zuniga (COL)	–	–	3
Kwang Sun Kim (KOR)	–	–	6
Juan Cordoba (ARG)	–	–	8
Shiro Yahiro (JAP)	21	–	9
Rosando Alvarez (NIG)	–	–	10

STRAWWEIGHTS	WBC	WBA	IBF
Ricardo Lopez (MEX)	**C**	**–**	**–**
Chana Porpaoin (THAI)	**–**	**C**	**–**
Ratanapol Vorapin (THAI)	**–**	**–**	**C**
Ala Villamor (PHIL)	1	4	–
Kermin Guardia (COL)	2	8	–
Andy Tabanas (PHIL)	3	–	–
Rocky Lin (JAP)	4	–	–
Jin Ho Kim (KOR)	5	1	–
Yodsingh Au Suwannasilp (THAI)	6	–	–
Carlos Rodriguez (VEN)	7	2	1
Seo Kjin Yang (KOR)	8	6	–
Songkram Porpaoin (THAI)	9	10	–
Shinichi Tamaki (JAP)	10	–	–
Carlos Murillo (PAN)	13	3	–
Saman Sor Jaturong (THAI)	–	5	–
Pichitnoi Sithbangprachan (THAI)	14	7	2
Tomonori Tamura (JAP)	–	9	–
Juan Herrera (COL)	12	12	3
Felix Naranjo (COL)	–	–	4
Jerry Pahayahay (PHIL)	26	–	5
Oscar Flores (COL)	–	–	6
Carlos Murillo (PAN)	–	–	7
Roger Espanola (PHIL)	23	–	8
Rafael Torres (USA)	–	–	9
Dominggus (INDO)	–	–	10

CLASSIC

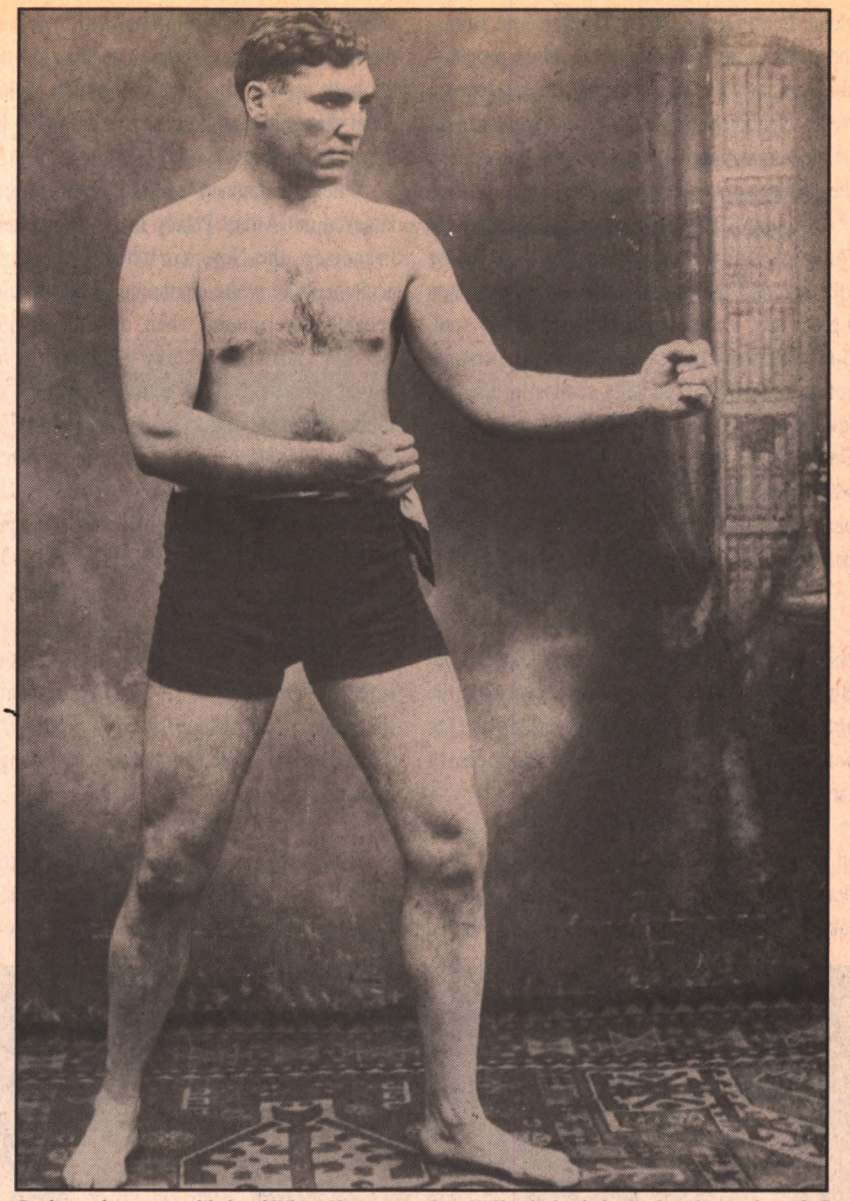
WHITE HOPE INTERLUDE WROTE FANTASTIC YARN



Luther McCarty was considered the best in a long line of White Hopes. After Jack Johnson dethroned world heavyweight champion Tommy Burns, White Hopes flourished. No one, it seemed, was comfortable with a black heavyweight king.

From THE RING, November 1947

eriod Which Opened With ohnson's ictory Over urns And nded In efeat By illard Made izarre History



Perhaps the most unlikely of White Hopes was Jess Willard, the fighter who ultimately ended Johnson's reign. Willard, a giant of a man, was initially dismissed as "just another big bum."

Daniel M. Daniel

On December 26, 1908, at Sydney, New South Wales, Jack Johnson, a Negro, knocked out Tommy Burns in the 14th and became the first non-Caucasian to hold eavyweight championship of the world.

In July 4, 1910, Johnson's right to the title ame clear when he knocked out Jim Jeffries in th heat at Reno, Nevada.

On April 5, 1915, at Havana, Jess Willard ed Jack Johnson in the 26th round.

Between December 27, 1908, and April 5, a strange and thoroughly bizarre interval the White Hope period existed in world ing. It was especially hectic in the United with accent on old Dixie, where the fact Negro was the reigning king of fisticuffs was more than repugnant to the majority of its ring cognoscenti.

No story of heavyweight competition would be anything like complete without a thorough analysis of this White Hope interlude. There are many angles to be examined in this seven-year stretch which saw Johnson rule, and so many whites resent his supremacy.

On June 22, 1937, Joe Louis, our second Negro heavyweight champion, knocked out Jim Braddock in eight rounds in Chicago. Louis' fistic qualities long had been recognized. When he took the title, comparatively few followers of boxing said, "This is deplorable. Another Negro titleholder! We have got to go out and find a white fighter who can stop Louis. The supremacy of the white race is vital even in the ring."

Very few stopped to think of Joe Louis as a Negro. He was acclaimed as a great American fighter. Race lines had not been obliterated by any means. But even in our South, Louis was hailed as the great puncher and boxer he is.

Let us throw this situation into contrast with what happened after Johnson had stopped Burns, and with still more intense furies which grew right in the wake of Jack's triumph over the hollow-shell Jeffries.

When Johnson became the champion, boxing was confronted with the fact that, for the first time, a Negro had taken the title. Nobody seemed to take the pains to dig out the truth that the Negro really had started heavyweight boxing in this country, that Tom Molineaux and Bill Richmond had set up the foundations of the

game. In any event, when Johnson beat Burns, there was an uproar—not from our best people—about racial supremacies, about the influence a Negro champion would have on American life, on the conduct of all Negroes in this country, on the destinies of the Negro in the South.

We know that most of these arguments were founded on either misapprehensions or viciousness. I will say this, though: Johnson was a grand guy. He was a good-hearted, kindly soul. But he was not too careful about his personal conduct. He was especially remiss in his duty toward the title, himself, and the Negroes of the United States in regard to his relationships with white women. In striking contrast has been the personal conduct of Louis. Not a mar on his personal record. Not a blemish.

***

I do not say that had Louis been born early enough to have been the man who knocked out Burns and Jeffries, he would have escaped the attacks which were rained on Johnson. But Joe would not have been the wide-open and easy target which Jack made himself.

No sooner had the news of Johnson's victory in Sydney reached the United States than there was a movement to develop a white fighter to take his place. In some quarters, the fact that the world's heavyweight title was held by a Negro did not seem to have official standing. In time, we built up a White Race cult which took the stand that only a white heavyweight could hold the championship.

When, on January 1, 1914, Gunboat Smith knocked out Arthur Pelkey in 15 rounds in San Francisco, the New York heavyweight was acclaimed the white champion. This white cult became more intense when, on July 16, 1914, Georges Carpentier, a heavy middleweight from France, won the Caucasian title from Smith on a foul in the sixth round.

The White Hope interlude became violent the day after Johnson had knocked out Jeffries. Up to that time, some experts had doubted the legality of Johnson's claim to the title. As you know, Jeffries had retired unbeaten and Burns had established his more or less valid right to the championship by disposing of a succession of inferior whites in a so-called elimination tournament from which Negroes were barred. Then Tommy made the mistake of taking on Johnson.

***

During the period between Johnson's victory over Burns and his triumph against Jeffries, the race question merely simmered, though professional rousers were doing a fair job in boxing. However, when Johnson stopped Jeff the pot really began to boil. There was a race in Chicago, where Negro invasion of the S Side already had developed a serious condit bomb-throwing, fires, gunfights, and the like.

As days passed, there were fresh outbreak the whites kept resenting Johnson more more. In New York, there were less ser troubles, but troubles just the same. Negroes dragged off street cars. Corner soap box or wanted to know what this world was coming

Instead of attacking Johnson, and the rise Negro champion, the white resenters should deplored the miserable state of heavywe skills. However, a keen analysis of the W Hope era proves that behind it all wa righteous determination to lift the Caucas back to the peak and "save the Negro f himself."

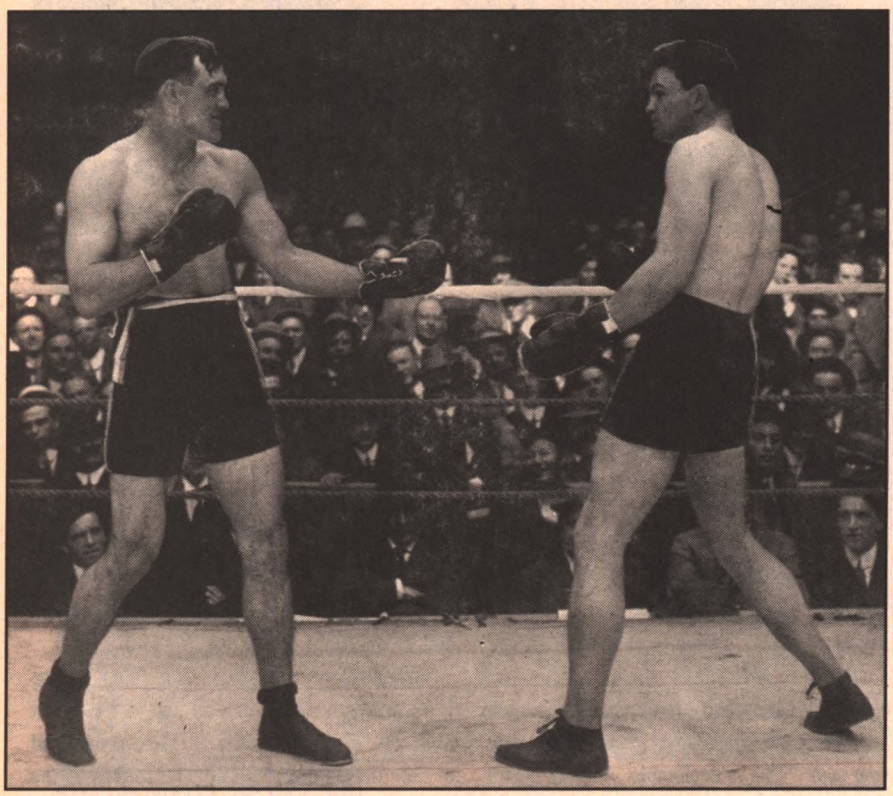
The existence of a Negro titleholder bec the excuse for capitalizing on a crop of W Hopes who, in normal times, would h remained on their trucks, in the steel mills, o farms. Certainly, in their original work t would have been far more useful to society.

***

As the White Hope craze went crescendo, no promoter, no fight manager c resist the opportunity to cash in on the situation. There were White Hope tourna exploiting dock-wallopers and stumblebum the lowest fistic degree the game yet has suffe to enter its arenas. If a young man weig around 200 pounds and looked at all athletic was bound to get an offer from some profess seeker after the higher welfare of the white ra

Club promoters found the racial situati profitable one. "We have got to find a w fighter to take the title," they shouted at the f door. But at their ledgers they chuckled: "Hea forbid. This is a soft touch. You charge three five [dollars per ticket], and give the bum apiece. Glory be to the supremacy of the w race, and down with Negro champions."

In short, that period of Johnson's title te was loaded with dynamite, laughs, tens phoneyism, some percentage of t apprehension, and a vaster ingredien ridiculousness. Looking back at it now— sports reporter, I had to cover so many of t White Hope things—the interlude certainly one of the bright chapters of a story which be with Jim Figg and brings us into the decad



In a matchup of White Hopes, Arthur Pelkey squares off with McCarty in 1913. In one of the ring's oddest and most tragic moments, McCarty was kayoed in one round, then died in the ring.

Louis' suzerainty. The White Hope era produced a few good fighters. But most of them would have come to the fore, anyway.

***

Perhaps the greatest of the White Hopes was Luther McCarty, who defeated Al Kaufman, Jim Flynn, and Al Palzer. It is conceivable that had McCarty lived, he would have punched Jess Willard out of his path, and that Luther instead of the ungainly giant from Kansas would have been Johnson's conqueror—and later Jack Dempsey's antagonist. However, at the outset of his career, McCarty died in the ring at Calgary, Canada, in the first round of a fight with Pelkey. Suddenly, McCarty crumpled—and he was dead.

The first of the White Hopes was no heavyweight at all. He was one of the greatest scrappers in the annals of the ring, middleweight Stanley Ketchel, "The Michigan Assassin."

Within two months after his victory over Burns, Johnson was back in an American ring, fighting Ketchel at Colma, California, with a 25-pound advantage over the white battler. It was a grand and noble try, but even ferocious Ketchel could not concede anything like that poundage to the Negro and was knocked out in the 12th round of one of the classics of the American ring.

THE RING RATINGS, *November 1947*

Gus Lesnevich

HEAVYWEIGHTS
World Champ: Joe Louis

1. Joe Walcott
2. Elmer Ray
3. Olle Tandberg
4. Pat Comiskey
5. Joe Baksi
6. Tami Mauriello
7. Lee Q. Murray
8. Phil Muscato
9. Turkey Thompson
10. Tommy Gomez

LIGHT HEAVYWEIGHTS
World Champ: Gus Lesnevich

1. Ezzard Charles
2. Archie Moore
3. Billy Fox
4. Tommy Yarosz
5. Lloyd Marshall
6. Dave Sands
7. Billy Smith
8. Bob Foxworth
9. Dolph Quijano
10. Freddie Mills

MIDDLEWEIGHTS
World Champ: Rocky Graziano

1. Tony Zale
2. Cecil Hudson
3. Jake LaMotta
4. Al Hostak
5. Bert Lytell
6. Marcel Cerdan
7. Fred Apostoli
8. Chuck Hunter
9. Steve Belloise
10. Smuggy Hursey

WELTERWEIGHTS
World Champ: Ray Robinson

1. Tommy Bell
2. Tony Pellone
3. Bernard Docusen
4. Tony Janiro
5. Cosby Linson
6. Johnny Greco
7. Gene Burton
8. Eddie Giosa
9. Bee Bee Wright
10. George Costner

LIGHTWEIGHTS
World Champ: Ike Williams

1. Bob Montgomery
2. Enrique Bolanos
3. Freddie Dawson
4. Larry Cisneros
5. Rudy Cruz
6. Tony Mar
7. Roberto Proietti
8. Johnny Bratton
9. Vic Patrick
10. Buddy Garcia

FEATHERWEIGHTS
World Champ: Willie Pep

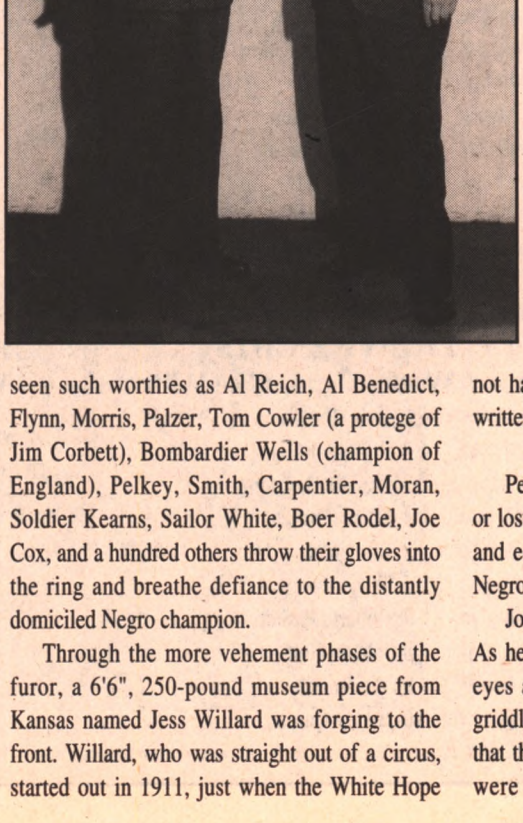
1. Sandy Saddler
2. Charley Riley
3. Jock Leslie
4. Miguel Acevedo
5. Simon Vegara
6. Jose Baby Gonsales
7. Chico Rosa
8. Humberto Sierra
9. Carlos Chavez
10. Eddie Miller

BANTAMWEIGHTS
World Champ: Manuel Ortiz

1. Peter Kane
2. Stan Rowan
3. Bunty Doran
4. Luis Galvani
5. Luis Castillo
6. Norman Lewis
7. Harold Dade
8. Manny Ortega
9. Elly Bennett
10. Armando Puenti Pi

FLYWEIGHTS
World Champ: Title Vacant

1. Dado Marino
2. Rinty Monaghan
3. Maurice Sandeyron
4. Emile Famechon
5. Raoul Degryse
6. Monito Flores
7. Mickey Hill
8. Jimmy Hogg
9. Dickie O'Sullivan
10. Charley Squire



The hunt for a Great White Hope escalated after Johnson stopped the comebacking Jim Jeffries in 1910 (above). Thirty-five years later, the rivals met again under friendlier circumstances (right).

Johnson later beat Philadelphia Jack O'Brien in a six-round folderol in Philadelphia. Jack then whipped lumbering Tony Ross and knocked out Jeffries in one of the most regrettable matches in fistic annals. There was no valid reason—except a financial one—for Jeffries to have come out of retirement to take a whipping from the Negro. However, those who had questioned the lineage of the title that Johnson had been exhibiting were silenced.

Johnson beat Kaufman, then stopped Fireman Jim Flynn. Then Jack became involved with our federal authorities in 1912, and went abroad.

***

Johnson was hounded and persecuted. However, he should have been more careful about how he conducted himself. The charge on which he was wanted by the authorities had to do with the Mann Act.

Jack's retreat to Europe, where his chief engagement brought a 20-round victory over Frank Moran and his "Mary Ann" punch, was the signal for greater activity in the White Hope carnival. Not only was Johnson a Negro, but a law-breaking Negro, and that, of course, was a blot on the bright escutcheon of the ring science.

Professional managers and promoters became downright frantic. The White Hope frenzy had seen such worthies as Al Reich, Al Benedict, Flynn, Morris, Palzer, Tom Cowler (a protege of Jim Corbett), Bombardier Wells (champion of England), Pelkey, Smith, Carpentier, Moran, Soldier Kearns, Sailor White, Boer Rodel, Joe Cox, and a hundred others throw their gloves into the ring and breathe defiance to the distantly domiciled Negro champion.

Through the more vehement phases of the furor, a 6'6", 250-pound museum piece from Kansas named Jess Willard was forging to the front. Willard, who was straight out of a circus, started out in 1911, just when the White Hope excitement had begun to achieve its shrillest n with Johnson's victory over Jeffries. "Anot big bum," was the general verdict on Jess, as seated and labored and lumbered along a ca which the suspicious believed to be conduc along scheduled lines.

***

The fact is, Willard was somewhat m effective than the experts believed him to "The Pottawatomie Giant's" great size doubl worked against him in the minds of the bo writers. He was likened to Dunkhorst, Plaa and other nondescript behemoths of the history. However, Willard kept plugging al When he lost to Smith in San Francisco i rounds in 1913, it was believed that Jess through as a contender. Nevertheless, Wil pulled himself together again and made a f start among the bright gems of the White H coterie.

In 1914, it began to appear as if might be a chance to lure Johnson o Europe and get the heavyweight ti unraveled. The title was bringing in little to Jack. He may have felt that lost it to a white fighter, he not only w improve his financial position, but tak heat off himself in so far as the fe authorities were concerned, and slip into the good old USA. Johnson wrong. Eventually he had to take a re

Willard's 1914 campaign was far dazzling. He started out with a 12- loss to Tom MacMahon in Young Dan Daily was stopped in nine he Buffalo. Rodel was knocked out in Atlanta. The stage had been set.

Jack Curley and Harry Frazee now dead, were the promoters Havana match. Johnson himself is too. The true story of the Negro's by a fighter who, in Jack's prime, not have carried Johnson's shoes never written.

***

Perhaps Johnson did not care whether or lost. Perhaps Jack wanted to lose. Perh and easy living had taken too much out Negro. Perhaps he had not done any real tr

Johnson declared he got $25,000 for As he lay on the red-hot canvas, he sha eyes and lifted a tender thigh off the griddle, and that photo gave rise to the su that the fight was a fake. But most of tho were present, among them the editor

publication, could never be convinced that Willard didn't win that fight and the title honestly.

At any rate, when Willard rapped Jack to the canvas and the referee counted "10 and out," the incredible White Hope era had ended. What ensued—the reign of King Jess—perhaps was even more fantastic. Willard lasted until July 4, 1919, when a gent named Jack Dempsey beat him to a pulp in a sun-baked ring at Toledo, Ohio.

The rise of Dempsey started the era of sanity, the time of the million-dollar gate, and things of richer fantasy than any of the bizarre evocations of the great White Hope era.

***

It was Billy McCarney who started the "White Hope" craze. Every fight manager who had a heavyweight followed his lead, and it didn't take long before the country was flooded with ballyhoo on this and that "phenom." It was from McCarney that Jack Kearns, who handled the affairs of Dempsey when he won the title from Willard, got his idea of fistic ballyhoo. But he went a step further in that he employed new methods and became the world's ace press agent.

The cases of Morris and McCarty are examples of high-pressure press agenting during the White Hope era. The story sent out by Carl's manager and headlined in the New York papers, where he was to make his Eastern debut against Flynn, was to the effect that Morris, an Oklahoma locomotive engineer celebrated for his size, strength, and pugnacity, a rough-and-tumble fighter at any style of milling, read a story about the vain search for a white man to beat Jack Johnson. So he offered his services, declaring that he would never again handle a throttle until the white race regained the crown, and he hoped he would have the honor of bringing it back.

Of course that publicity, headlined in the sports pages of New York, caught the eyes of the public, and when the big boy from the West arrived in the East, he was surrounded by news hounds seeking information about his early life, his career as an engineer, and his fighting record. When he faced Flynn in the old Garden, he exhibited his wares before a house that was packed, and the enthusiastic fans saw Flynn whip the engineer, despite the fact that Flynn gave away about 60 pounds and Morris had come East with a splendid knockout record. The Morris bubble burst that night, but to his credit it must be said that he put forth a game fight.

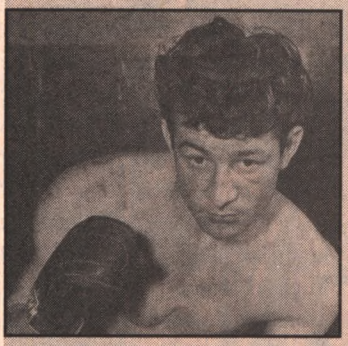
The list of White Hopes who thrived between 1910 and 1915 was a most impressive one, fighters who could take the measure of every contender in the field today with comparative ease. There were a few of the "cheese" variety, but for every heavyweight who couldn't make the grade, there were five who could, and those who were the poorest of the lot came through with flying colors in the first world war, in which their heroic deeds offset their lack of courage in the ring. Among the latter were Fred McKay and Rodel, heavyweights with glass chins who quit under fire in the roped square but won everlasting glory on the battlefields fighting under the British flag.

For a time it seemed Moran, the sorrel-thatched Pittsburgher, would clean up the field, but he fell short of the mark, though he always gave an excellent account of himself in every bout in which he engaged. There never was a thrill lacking when Moran and his famous Mary Ann, a blow that came up from the floor, were on exhibition. The best of the White Hopes, however, was McCarty, managed by McCarney.

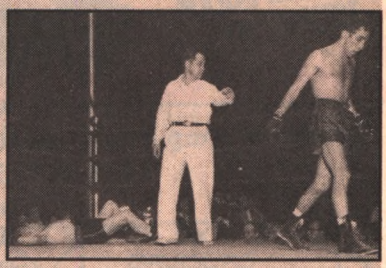
McCarty was killed by Pelkey in Calgary, Canada, in a bout designated as for the white heavyweight championship of the world. Luther died a few minutes after he collapsed in the opening round and had been counted out by referee Ed Smith. ■

THE RING, November 1947

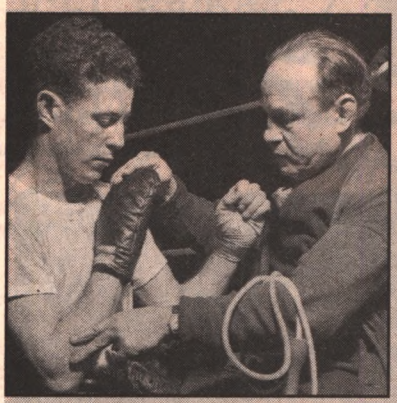
The Cover: Is middleweight champion Rocky Graziano the new Stanley Ketchel? Stanley Weston's illustration suggests he's just that. Like Ketchel, Graziano is a murderous puncher. He won the crown by crushing Tony Zale.



Boxing's Ills: Jersey Jones examines the problems of boxing. Among the sport's ills: poor matchmaking and the lack of fresh faces to accompany stars like Rocky Graziano (pictured) and Sugar Ray Robinson. Come to think of it, those have been boxing's ills for most of the century.



Class Tells: In the first title fight ever held in Flint, Michigan, featherweight champion Willie Pep retains the crown via 12th-round TKO of Jock Leslie. Reporting from ringside, Editor and Publisher Nat Fleischer writes, "In every part of boxing, [Pep] had it all over Jock."



Trainer For The Ages: After nearly half a century in the fight game, Charley Goldman, pictured with Austin McCann, remains one of the sport's great teachers. Goldman is profiled by Charles Leseman, who examines the trainer's career as a top bantamweight and featherweight, as well as his work with such world champions as Joey Archibald, Lou Ambers, and Marty Servo.

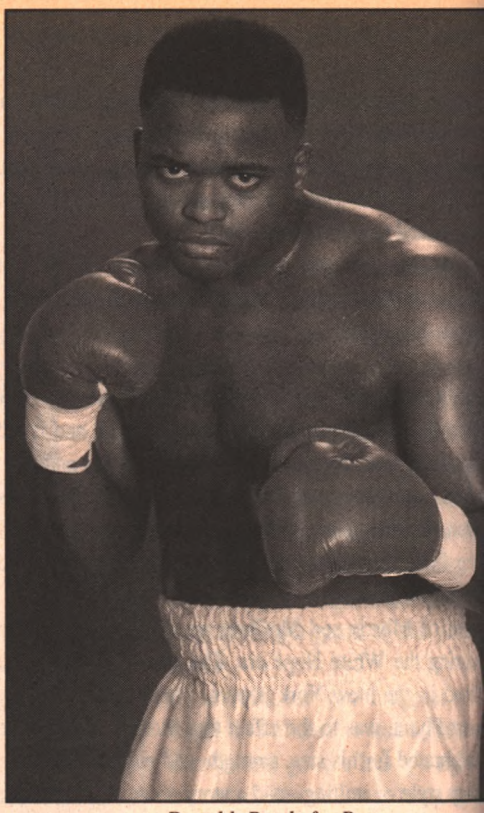
Fighter Of The Month: Featherweight contender Charley Riley receives the honors for his first-round kayos of Phil Terranova and Al Pennino. The St. Louis 126-pounder is now rated second, behind only Sandy Saddler. The champion is Willie Pep.

Looking Ahead

By Steve Farhood

"BIG DADDY'S" BIG GAMBLE

When Oliver McCall shocked defending WBC heavyweight champion Lennox Lewis, Riddick Bowe, who was scheduled to challenge Lewis in March, lost as much as $13-million. So what's Bowe to do now? McCall, who is expected to keep the seat of the throne warm until Mike Tyson is ready to reclaim it, isn't about to engage in any high-risk bouts. As for WBA-IBF champion Michael Moorer, Dan Duva, the champion's promoter, refuses to do business with Rock Newman, Bowe's manager. As a result, we'll probably get Moorer-Joe Hipp instead of Moorer-Bowe. (As we went to press, Moorer was scheduled to defend against George Foreman.)



Donald: Ready for Bowe

What Bowe is going to do on December 3 is take on perhaps the most talented young heavyweight in the game, unbeaten 1992 Olympian Larry Donald (12). In fact, Bowe was willing to risk his standing against Donald even before McCall upset Lewis; the match originally scheduled for the summer.

Why pick Donald, who is certainly a tougher opponent than either McCall or Moorer seems willing to fight?

"I've looked at Donald closely, and I'm looking for work against this kind of opposition," trainer Eddie told THE RING. "I feel Bowe is superior physically and experience-wise. Donald has a style that is that of a b But he's not big enough or strong enough, and he doesn't box well enough or punch hard enough."

Counters Janks Morton, Donald's trainer, "Riddick's gotten fat, both in the pocketbook and physically. since Larry turned pro, every single fight has shown a progression of skills. He has the best, fastest jab i business, and the best legs, too. And his style—he starts the first round fast, and at the end of the 12th round fighting the same way. I look at Larry as being the Pernell Whitaker of the heavyweights. He's the one I see there who can win the championship and keep it five, six years."

So while Bowe-Lewis is off, Bowe-Donald is back on. Maybe it the Fight of the Century, but it beats the hell out of Oliver McCall-F McNeeley.

"December 3 is a beautiful day," says Donald. "This fight has been off long enough. Larry Donald a tuneup? *I'm* gonna be the one tuning I'm gonna tune up Riddick Bowe."

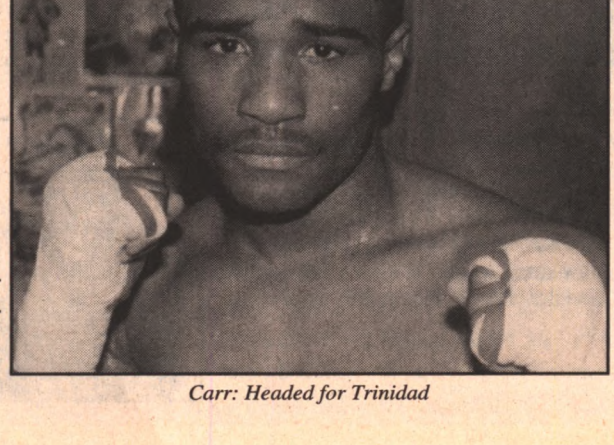


Photo by Jay Lash

Carr: Headed for Trinidad

LISTEN UP

News from **Don King**: Look for a title fight doubleheader in Bah early next year, with hometown hero and newly crowned IBF ju middleweight champion **Vincent Pettway** defending against Sh **Brown**, and WBA junior welterweight titlist **Frankie Randall** riskin crown vs. **Rodney Moore**. Should Randall get past Moore, King want to defend against **Meldrick Taylor**. More King-promoted title f WBC super lightweight champion **Julio Cesar Chavez** vs. **Tony L** probably in December, and IBF welterweight king **Felix Trinidad** vs **Carr**.

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Must be Prepaid (Plus additional $15.00 Shippin

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Double End Bags

- All Leather
- Triple Stitched

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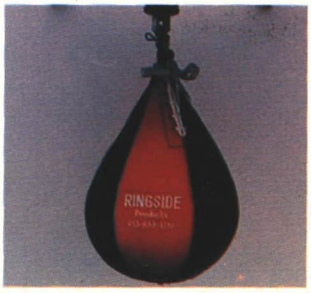

Speed Bags

- 5 Great Size
- All Kangaroo Skin Leather

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